Army Reserve

Summer 2000

USAR Marches On

Army Reserve

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Spc. Rob Roy performs solo number during unveiling of oil painting honoring Reservists who served in Bosnia.

A time to remember and say thanks

Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes

This year is an especially full one for commemorative events that are taking place practically back-to-back.

The big event is the Army's 225th birthday in June, which follows the 50th anniversary of Armed Forces Day in May. Shortly after we celebrate the Army's birthday, we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.

The history article in this issue discusses our 92 years of Army Reserve history and how those 92 years of history are so intertwined and important to the two and a quarter centuries of Army history.

The Korean War commemoration is of special interest to the Army Reserve since the war was a particularly important and difficult conflict for us.

The Army was dangerously weak in 1950. When the war began, it soon found itself in dire need of its reserve components. The need for experienced combat leaders, the same leaders who had taken the Army to victory in World War II, was extremely critical.

Those leaders were in the Army Reserve. These were the same officers and NCOs who, having survived Anzio, Guam, the Battle of the Bulge, Okinawa and the other battles of World War II, were now being called on to fight another major war. It was unfair but it had to be done. Thousands of them answered the call and provided the Army their leadership when it needed it most. The Army Reserve takes great pride in all the individual soldiers and units of the USAR who served so gallantly during the Korean War.

In June, our nation also honors another group of magnificent Americans. These are 21 Asian Pacific American U.S. Army veterans who will receive the Medal of Honor for their actions during World War II.

Nineteen of these great soldiers were members of two legendary units, the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Today, the legacy, lineage and honors of these two units are continued in the Army Reserve's 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry.

This unit, the only remaining Infantry unit in the USAR force structure, is part of the 9th Regional Support Command. It is headquartered at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, with soldiers located in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and Saipan.

I have visited the citizen-soldiers of the 100th/442nd in Hawaii and also during their training rotation at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La., last June. These soldiers well know the standards the original members of the 100th/442nd set for them. Their determination to live up to the example of their forebears is clear by the way they continually strive to be one of the best Infantry units in The Army. I saw that at Fort Polk when they set a number of records during their JRTC rotation.

I know how proud the 100th/442nd is of those who came before them and the special recognition now being given to 19 members of the unit. All Americans should be rightly proud of what the 100th/442nd did for our country.

Only seven men are still alive today to receive their Medals of Honor. One of them is a gentleman with whom I have been privileged to work to help keep our Army Reserve strong, Senator Daniel K. Inouye. In 1945, the senior senator from Hawaii was a second lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion of the 442nd, already a combat veteran of numerous battles in Italy and France.

During a battle for a strategic hill in Italy on April 20, 1945, 2nd Lt. Inouye was wounded three times, once in the stomach, once in the arm (this wound led to the amputation of his right arm) and once in the leg.

Despite these serious wounds, he destroyed three enemy machine gun positions, then deployed his platoon for possible counterattack before allowing himself to be medically evacuated.

All of us today who serve our country as citizen-soldiers owe much to the example of selfless service, dedication and love of country set by Lieutenant Inouye, the veterans of Korea and all the others we honor this year. As we

SEE CAR, page 23

MacArthur Leadership Award Winners

Photo by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes and Command Sgt. Maj. Alex Lackey pose with the Army Reserve winners of this year's Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Awards. From left to right are CSM Lackey; Capt. Samuel Membrere, 411th Engineer Combat Battalion; Capt. Darrell Lee Sydner, 301st Area Support Group; Capt. Martin Schulz, 2nd PsyOps Group; Capt. Desiree Wineland, HQ, 70th Regional Support Command; Capt. Lisa Kaye Richards, 257th Transportation Battalion; Capt. Charles Sherburne Sentell, III, 4013th USAR Garrison Support Unit; and Maj. Gen. Plewes.

From the Command Sergeant Major

Promotions and NCOES

It's serious business and your responsibility

Command Sgt. Maj. Alex R. Lackey

I recently met with Army Reserve Command Sergeant Majors, and we reached one conclusion—that Command Sergeant Majors, First Line Leaders and Noncommissioned Officers need to become more actively involved with our Promotion system.

On January 17, 1998 the Army Reserve changed the way we promote soldiers and part of that change affected the Noncommissioned Officer Educational System (NCOES). The Total Army School System (TASS) changed the way the Army assigned school quotas for our soldiers to attend an NCOES course.

We [USAR] are authorized 2,477 NCOES quotas. A disturbing pattern is that only 1,733 or 70% of the Army Reserve NCOES quotas are filled by attending Reservists. Equally disturbing is that 1,495 Army Reserve soldiers were enrolled in NCOES during the last training year and cancelled prior to the start date. Of that number, 822 of those soldiers cancelled less than 30 days from the start of the class.

NCO leaders and mentors need to understand that, not only are these statistics not acceptable and can cause soldiers to be reduced. **AR 140-158**—*Enlisted Personnel Classification, Promotion, and Reduction, Update 23* is clear in its guidance regarding the selection, promotion and training of soldiers.

Promotions and Training

Chapter 8, Promotions and the Noncommissioned Officer Education System, provides specific guidance with respect to "the authority to promote a soldier on the condition he or she enrolls in, and successfully completes, a required NCOES course." Under the promotion procedures prescribed in chapters 3, 4, and 5, of this regulation, a soldier may be promoted on the condition he or she enroll in and successfully complete the course required for that grade.

NCOES Requirements

Section IV, paragraph 8-19 states if the grade requires the soldier be a graduate of:

a. PLDC, the soldier must be enrolled in the course within 12 months of the date of promotion and be a graduate of PLDC by the 24th month of enrollment.

b. BNCOC, the soldier must be enrolled in the course within 12 months of the date of promotion and be a graduate of BNCOC within 24 months of the Phase I completion date. An extra 12 months will be allowed for completion of each phase of BNCOC for courses with more than 2 phases.

c. ANCOC, the soldier must be enrolled in the course within 12 months of the date of promotion and be a graduate of ANCOC within 24 months of the Phase I completion date. An extra 12 months will be allowed for completion of each phase of ANCOC for courses with more than 2 phases.

It is clear to me there is some misinterpretation of the word **enrolled**. To be **enrolled** you must have **all** of the following in place: A reserved seat in ATRRS, official orders directing the soldier to attend the course (unless in an RST status), and the soldier arrives and is sitting in class.

It is the responsibility of the soldier's first line leader to counsel the soldier about his or her conditional promotion and what will happen if he or she fails to attend or are dropped from the course. This counseling should be done as soon as the possible following the soldier's selection for promotion and prior to attending the course.

Section IV, paragraph 8-18a-e addresses conditional promotion of SGMs. Paragraph b specifically states:

If selected for promotion to SGM, or as a CSM designee, by the board, the MSG/ISG will be promoted **conditionally** to SGM and automatically selected by HQDA for enrollment in the SMC. The promotion will be awarded on the condition the SGM is enrolled in and successfully completes the SMC or the soldier will be reduced to the grade and rank previously held per paragraph 7-1 2d.

Senior NCOs

For SGMs, I direct your attention to a sentence in paragraph e.—"...not have been previously selected for the SMC and then subsequently was denied enrollment, became an academic failure, did not meet graduation requirements, **became a NO Show**, or did not complete the course within 36 months of enrollment."

If you were one of the above as an E-8, you are not eligible for promotion to E-9, because you can not complete the requirements. If you were conditionally promoted to E-9 and are one of the above you will be reduced, additionally if you are past your Retention Control Point (RCP) for E-8 you will be processed for separation or retirement.

NCOs need to understand that failing to attend or to complete their NCOES will incur serious consequences. Section 5, paragraph 8-21 addresses enforcement procedures and defines what an "authorized delay" is for attendance. It also describes the procedures for getting an authorized delay approval. Paragraph 8-22 covers course failures and the consequences.

NCOES is Sergeants business. This is a serious problem for our soldiers and us. We must ensure that conditionally promoted soldiers attend their required training. Conditionally promoted soldiers need to understand that they have an obligation to the Army to keep that promotion.

Lead By Example

Still going strong

The youngest of the Army's three components turns 92

By Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

The Army turns 225 years old this year and the Army National Guard traces its history back more than three and a half centuries. So the Army Reserve, at 92, is the youngest of the Army's three components.

If that leads you to think the Army Reserve does not have much history, think again.

Army Reserve history includes places like the Meuse-Argonne, Bataan, the Pointe du Hoc and Utah Beach in Normandy, Metz, the Umurbrogol Pocket on Peleliu, the Urasoe-Mura Escarpment on Okinawa, the Chosin Reservoir (Yes, the Army was there with the Marines at "Frozen Chosin."), Chu Lai, Dhahran, Mogadishu, Tuzla and Pristina.

Army Reserve history includes people like Eddie Rickenbacker, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.,

Charles Lindbergh, Harry S Truman, James Earl Rudder, Desmond Doss, Strom Thurmond, Henry Cabot Lodge, Henry Kissinger, Hiroshi Miyamura, and Celia Adolphi.

USAR Historical Painting

An Army Reserve doctor prioritizes the wounded being brought in for treatment at a field hospital in Suipes, France, July 1918.

The citizen-soldiers of the Army Reserve have amassed plenty of history in the last 92 years and they add more to that history every day.

U.S. Army photo

Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., (right) deputy commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division confers with Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., 7th U.S. Army commanding general in Sicily in 1943. Roosevelt, an Army Reserve hero of both world wars, would receive the medal of honor posthumously for his actions on D-Day in 1944.

The history of the U.S. Army Reserve begins on April 23, 1908, when Congress passed Senate Bill 1424. This act authorized the Army to establish a reserve corps of medical officers. The Secretary of War could order these officers to active duty during time of emergency. This was the nation's first federal reserve.

Four years later, a provision of the Army Appropriations Act of 1912 created the Regular Army Reserve, a federal reserve outside the Medical Reserve Corps authorized in 1908. The first call-up of the Army Reserve, came in 1916 as a result of tensions between the United States and Mexico caused by the Mexican bandit, Francisco "Pancho" Villa, and the subsequent punitive expedition after Villa led by Brigadier General John J. Pershing.

For a time, it looked like there might be a war between Mexico and the United States and for the first, but not the only time, the Army looked to its citizen-soldiers for added strength and expertise.

This first mobilization was an important development for the Army Reserve as was another piece of legislation that was passed in 1916.

The National Defense Act of 1916 established, by statute, the Officers Reserve Corps, the Enlisted Reserve Corps and the Reserve Officers Training Corps. One year later in 1917, the initial Reserve organization, the Medical Reserve Corps merged into the Officers Reserve Corps.

On April 6, 1917, America entered World War I. By the end of June 1917, there were 21,543 officer reservists and 35,000 enlisted reservists. Less than a decade earlier, there had been no reservists.

As the Army expanded for World War I, so did the Army Reserve. In all, about 170,000 enlisted and officer Reservists served in the First World War. They served in every division of the American Expeditionary Force, whether those divisions were Regular Army, National Guard or National Army. The Reserve doughboys of 1917 and 1918, among whose ranks were America's Ace of Aces Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker and Col. Teddy Roosevelt, Jr. of the 1st Infantry Division, set the standard of dedicated service that Army Reservists have followed ever since.

Since World War I, Army Reservists, or Organized Reservists as they were called until 1952, have taken part in every major American conflict of the 20th Century. They have been in the forefront of other types of crises as well. During the Great Depression, the Army Reserve provided the majority of the Army officers running the Civilian Conservation

USAR Historical Painting

The 319th Transportation company from Augusta, Ga., returns fire after one of their trucks is disabled during a Viet Cong ambush. The 319th was one of 35 USAR units mobilized and deployed to Vietnam in 1968.

Corps camps, an important New Deal program that provided much-needed jobs for unemployed young men.

As World War II neared, the Army Reserve was mobilized again to provide the junior officers needed to build the huge Army necessary to defeat Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. Almost one of every four Army officers — more than 200,000 of the 900,000 Army officers during the war — was an Army Reservist.

Two wartime studies give an indication of how important the Reserve contribution was to the Army. A 1944 War Department study in one Regular Army infantry division found that 62.5% of the battalion commanders, 84.5% of the company commanders and 30.3% of the platoon leaders were Reservists. Another survey noted that between September 1, 1943, and May 31, 1944, 52.4% of the Army officers killed in action and 27.7% of those missing in action came from the Organized Reserve.

The Army Reservists of World War II included men like Brigadier General Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., the first general to land on a Normandy beach on D-Day, who received the Medal of Honor for his actions that day. Other prominent Reservists were Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle, who led the first raid to strike back against Japan and who also received the Medal of Honor; Lt. Col. Strom Thurmond, who crash-landed in a glider with the 82nd Airborne Division into Normandy; and

Lt. Col. James Earl Rudder, who led Rudder's Rangers up the Pointe du Hoc cliffs on D-Day. Another World War II Reservist by the name of Capt. Ronald Reagan went on to greater fame after the war.

Five years after victory in World War II, the Army Reserve was desperately needed again to rebuild the dangerously weak U.S. Army during the Korean War. Almost a quarter of a million Army Reservists were called to active duty to serve in Korea, at home and elsewhere in the world during the Korean War. Among the Army's Korean War Medal of Honor recipients were Army Reservists Staff Sergeant Hiroshi Miyamura and Captain Raymond Harvey.

Miyamura received his Medal of Honor after his release from a Chinese POW camp in 1953, by which time it was President Dwight D. Eisenhower who presented it to him. Harvey received his earlier, in 1951, so it was given to him by a fellow Army Reservist, President Harry S Truman (World War I veteran Truman joined the Organized Reserve in 1920, rose to the rank of colonel and retired from the Army Reserve in 1953.).

During the Berlin Crisis of 1961, some 60,000 Army Reservists were called to active duty. The Cold War stayed cold in Berlin but not on the other side of the world in Vietnam. Although the Johnson administration opted for no large Reserve call-ups for Vietnam, thousands of individual Army Reservists did serve in Vietnam, as did 35 USAR units deployed there in 1968.

USAR soldiers took part in the aftermath of the 1983 Grenada and 1989 Panama operations but the next major crisis took place in the Persian Gulf in 1990-1991. More than 84,000 Army Reserve citizen-soldiers provided combat support and combat service support to the Army, at home and in the combat zone, during Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. Among the hardest hit Army units of the conflict was the USAR's 14th Quartermaster Detachment, victim of a SCUD missile attack on Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Thirteen men and women from this unit were killed in the attack.

Since 1991, the USAR has been engaged almost constantly around the world, in combat, humanitarian and peacekeeping operations. Reserve citizen soldiers went to northern Iraq following the Gulf War, provided hope in Somalia from 1992 to 1994 and went into Haiti in 1995 to restore democracy. More than 13,000 have been mobilized for the Bosnia operations JOINT ENDEAVOR, JOINT GUARD and JOINT FORGE.

U.S. Army photo

Staff Sgt. Hiroshi Miyamura, a former Enlisted Reserve Corps member, is presented the Medal of Honor by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on Oct. 27, 1953. He received the award for his actions in Korea in April 1951.

In 1999, Army Reservists supported the NATO operations against Yugoslavia in a number of ways. One of these was by conducting the refugee operation at Fort Dix, N.J., assisting more than 4,000 men, women and children displaced from their homes in Kosovo. That same year, more than 7,200 USAR soldiers went to Central America to assist the people there to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Mitch. Also in 1999, USAR soldiers took part in peacekeeping operations in East Timor and in Kosovo, following the end of hostilities there. As the 20th Century ended and the 21st began, Army Reservists continued to serve in the Balkans.

Today, the Army Reserve is the Army's essential support force. Without the Army Reserve, the Army cannot perform its missions. Army Reservists can be

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Army Reserve celebrates anniversary
Painting unveiled at Capitol

By Staff Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

WASHINGTON—The Army Reserve honored its soldiers and remembered their contributions to the nation's security during a recent ceremony at the Capitol.

The April 11th occasion was the unveiling of a painting depicting the Army Reserve's part in the peacekeeping mission in Bosnia. The 92nd anniversary of the Reserve's founding in 1908 with the creation of the Medical Reserve Corps was also commemorated.

The ceremony took place in the middle of a three-day conference in Washington for 94 Army Reserve Ambassadors and Army Reserve senior leaders. The ambassadors are civilian volunteers who promote awareness of the Army Reserve at the state level.

Adding to the ceremony's atmosphere was the arrival of the ambassadors and other dignitaries—led to the Capitol's lower terrace by the Pipes and Drums of the 91st Division Band, from Fort Baker, Calif.

During the ceremony, U.S. Rep. Steve Buyer (R-Ind.), addressed the crowd of about 200, acknowledging the Army Reserve contribution around the world.

"Today's Army Reserve is an essential component of the Army. No longer a force 'in reserve,' the Army Reserve is integral to all Army operations today," Buyer stated. "Each Army component, both active and reserve, complements and augments the other in order to make the Total Army. Simply put, the Army Reserve does its share and then some."

See ANNIVERSARY, page 10

Photo by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

Capt. Rebecca Leggieri and Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Kelly, both of the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, hold up the new Army Reserve painting, unveiled at the U.S. Capitol on April 11. The painting depicts Army Reservists at a checkpoint in Bosnia. Since 1995, more than 13,000 Army Reserve soldiers have been mobilized in support of the Bosnia peacekeeping mission.

Photos by Master Sgt. Vicki Washington

(Left) The Pipes and Drums of the 91st Division Band, Camp Parks (RFTA), Calif., head a procession for Army Reserve Ambassadors and Senior leaders attending the ceremony. (Right) A view of ceremonial proceedings from the balcony of the Capitol building.

Finance News

Government travel card mandatory use beginning May 1

By Linda D. Kozaryn

WASHINGTON—Beginning May 1, with some exceptions, DoD personnel must now use the government travel card for expenses arising from official government travel.

In mid-February, DoD issued new policies to implement travel card requirements contained in an amendment to the Federal Travel Regulation published by the General Services Administration in the Jan. 19 Federal Register. Originally slated to go into effect March 1, GSA granted DoD a two-month delay to allow the department time to implement the ruling.

The Defense Department began using travel cards in 1983 to pay for lodging, transportation, rental cars and other allowable expenses. The current contractor is Bank of America VISA.

The new rules make the use of the travel card mandatory for most DoD military and civilian personnel. Government-wide exemptions include employees who have an application pending for the travel charge card; people traveling on invitational travel orders; and new appointees.

The law authorizes agency-specific exemptions as well, and Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) William J. Lynn approved the following for DoD:

* Members of the ROTC and service members undergoing basic training or initial skill training prior to reporting to their first permanent duty station.

* Military and DoD civilians denied travel cards or whose cards have been canceled or suspended for financial irresponsibility or other reasons.

* Prisoners.

See VISA, page 23

News Update

Maximum deployment guidelines determined for all Army personnel

WASHINGTON—Reservists called up for future peacekeeping operations and small-scale contingencies are going to see a change in tour lengths a new Army policy says.

In February, Headquarters, Department of the Army announced the initiation of a new policy governing the maximum length of time a soldier can be employed in support of an operation other than war (OOTW) or small-scale contingency (SSC) operation. The new policy states that operational employment of individual soldiers, either AC or RC, in support of OOTW and SSC operations will not exceed 179 days in duration.

Previously, Active Component soldiers could expect to be employed within an operational theater for no more than 179 days. However, Reserve Component soldiers could expect to be mobilized for a maximum of 270 days and employed for an average of 220 to 230 days, depending upon the mission they were participating in. The new policy defines employment as being present within a geographical area of operations that possesses or supports the OOTW or SSC that a soldier has been deployed to participate in or support.

The new policy provides deployment duration equity between Active Component and Reserve Component soldiers deployed to the same theater of operations. The policy also focuses on reducing the impact of extended deployments on Army soldiers, their families, and Reserve Component soldiers' employers.

"To me, that's a great step to [active and reserve] integration…because we have one standard," said Col. Dan Knapik, chief of the Army Reserve's operations division. "This goes a long

See DEPLOYMENTS, page 23

Some Reserve captains get adjusted date of rank

By Staff Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

WASHINGTON (Army News Service)—Army officials announced they will review the records of nearly 5,000 Army Reserve and Army National Guard officers over the next year to adjust their dates of rank to captain.

The action affects Reserve component officers who were considered for promotion from November 1997 to the present and who found themselves subjected to promotion time-in-grade policy changes.

Depending on what mandatory promotion selection board considered them, an officer's date of rank may be adjusted by anywhere from two weeks to a year or more earlier than what it is now.

Army officials are administering the program in three phases over the remainder of the calendar year and into next year. Affected officers who are in the first phase should receive notification by early June.

The program covers reserve officers on the Army Promotion List, the Army Medical Department and Chaplain promotion competitive categories. It will only apply to officers who were first-time selects after having their promotion consideration delayed one year. The program may affect up to 5,000 officers, including 1,957 officers from the first year-group considered—those whose first-time consideration was delayed one year before they were recommended by the November 1997 through March 1998 reserve captain's boards.

Under a notification plan, the Chief of the Army Reserve and National Guard Bureau Office will provide to the Office of Promotions (Reserve Components) updated mailing addresses for the officers concerned.

That office will mail information packets containing all required application forms and instructions to eligible officers. The forms will be color-coded for each phase of the program and must be used by the affected officers, he said.

Officers who believe they are eligible

See DOR, page 22

Buyer is a co-chair of the National Guard and Reserve Caucus, a member of the House Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs committees and a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve.

He noted more than 13,000 reservists have mobilized in support of the Bosnia peacekeeping mission since its start in late 1995.

In addition to Bosnia, he said the Army Reserve has sent troops to Kosovo, Macedonia, and East Timor to help in peacekeeping. It also was present for humanitarian purposes at Fort Dix, N.J., last summer to help displaced Kosovar refugees and another 7,200 reservists went to Central America for relief efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch.

"Overall, in FY 1999, the U.S. Army Reserve deployed more than 71,000 soldiers to 64 countries for a total of 1.8 million man-days," Buyer said. "You live your life like other Americans, and then a whole lot more."

Also present was Sen. Strom Thurmond, (R-S.C.), president pro tempore of the Senate, a member of the Senate Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs committees, veteran of WWII and a man who retired as a major general from the Army Reserve.

Referring to the painting, Thurmond said, "We are not only commemorating this fine piece of art, but also what it represents. Art reflects reality and the reality represented in this art tells all who gaze upon it that the United States

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Photos by Master Sgt. Vicki Washington

(Page 9 and 10, clockwise from top) Spc. Rob Roy, a piper with the Pipes and Drums of the 91st Division Band from Ft. Baker, Calif. performs a solo during the ceremony. Col. Charles Betoney, and Capt. Kenneth Grier, CFMO Budget Officer with OCAR, render salutes during the playing of the National Anthem. Chief of the Army Reserve, Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes, and Artist Gary "Butch" Cassidy, enjoy a photo opportunity with soldiers. Armand De Keyser (left), a lieutenant colonel in the Reserve and Chief of staff for Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL) confer prior to the ceremony. Army Reserve Ambassadors from Kansas, Eber Phelps and James AuBuchon are just two of the 94 representatives and senior leaders who attended the ceremony. Sen. Strom Thurmond, (R-SC), president pro tempore of the Senate and a member of the Senate Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs committees, describes his pride in Reservists. Maureen Nolet, who spearheads the Ambassador Program, and Chief Warrant Officer Howard Lundin observe the proceedings.

Army Reserve is undeniably central and indispensable to America's national defense."

Mentioning a well-worn phrase used to describe Reservists, Thurmond said, "If the catch phrase 'weekend warrior' ever applied to the Army Reserve, it is certainly not nowadays."

The Painting

The oil painting presented, titled, "Bosnia-March 1998," depicts military police checkpoint operations at Camp Bedrock in Bosnia, explained its creator, artist Gary N. "Butch" Cassidy, a retired Army colonel, who was commissioned to paint a scene typical of Army Reserve activities in Bosnia.

In the work, soldiers from the 10th Psychological Operations Battalion, from St. Louis, Mo., and the 351st Military Police Company, from Ocala, Fla., are portrayed. Soldiers from both units were present for the ceremony.

"It was an interesting assignment. 'Capture the Army Reserve experience in Bosnia in the form of an historical painting,'" said Cassidy.

After visiting Bosnia on a project for the Army Center of Military History as part of the Army Art Program, he was "hired" by the Army Reserve to produce an additional work. In the painting, a 351st MP is standing at a HMMWV, talking with its driver, a soldier from the 10th, at the Bedrock gate.

"What the painting does not capture," Cassidy said, "is probably more important. The training in bad weather, blisters from road marches, baggy, bloodshot eyes from lack of sleep, loneliness of soldiering, balancing families, civilian careers, military obligations, spouses who take over all the homefront responsibilities while kids' moms and dads are deployed for nine months at a time. That you won't see in the painting."

Cassidy went on to say he was proud to be able to do this for the Army Reserve.

Commenting on the day, Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes said, "I think we had two purposes in mind. First, to honor the soldiers who have been to Bosnia. We've now sent over 13,000 soldiers to Bosnia, Hungary and Germany in support of the operations there.

"The second thing was that we have the opportunity at the birthday of the Army Reserve to show our Army Reserve painting from the Bosnia campaign. We have a painting from each of the campaigns now and they hang with honor in the Pentagon.

"This is added to that and it's a fitting memorial, I think, and a celebration of what the Army Reserve has done there," he said.

USAR Ambassadors meet for annual conference

(Left) Maj. Ismael Sanabria, Jr., a Legislative Affairs Officer for the Public Affairs & Liaison Directorate, OCAR, assists Army Reserve Ambassador Luis Berrios-Amadeo (PR), as he registers for the conference. (Right) Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes, Chief, Army Reserve, addresses ambassadors during a luncheon held in their honor at the Reserve Officers Association National Hqtrs. in Washington, D.C.

Photos by Master Sgt. Vicki Washington

By Master Sgt. Vicki Washington

More than 90 Army Reserve Ambassadors and senior Army Reserve leaders visited our nation's capital in April to attend the 2000 Army Reserve Ambassador Conference.

The 3-day conference allowed the representatives to meet with their counterparts from other states as well as the senior military leaders.

The Ambassador Program was created in April 1998 and includes representatives from 34 states and Puerto Rico. The purpose of the program is to establish a group of influential volunteers in every state and territory to promote awareness of the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) and the identified goals and objectives of the Chief, Army Reserve (CAR).

Ambassadors are appointed by the CAR, based on nominations from Regional Support Command/General Officer (RSC/GO) commanders, for an initial term of three years with renewable extensions decided by the CAR.

Military experience is not a requirement to become an ambassador, but, there is one restriction—nominees cannot be Reservists.

Nomination packets are available from your local command's public affairs officer or community outreach coordinator.

Editor's Note: Point of contact for the Ambassador program at OCAR is Ms. Maureen Nolet, (703) 601-0869; Email: Maureen.Nolet@ocar.army.pentagon.mil.

Fort McCoy Soldiers "On Point" in Army Training

By Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

WASHINGTON—The men and women of the Army Reserve Readiness Training Center at Fort McCoy are "on point" in the area of training innovations, according to the Deputy Chief of the Army Reserve.

Col. Malcolm B. Westcott made that comment when he cut the ribbon February 15 on a new "mirror site" computer classroom at the ARRTC, the first such mirror site in the Army. The "on point" remark was a reference to the Army's Vision statement of "soldiers on point for the nation … persuasive in peace, invincible in war."

"What the Army Reserve does for the Army — the whole Army, Active Guard and Reserve — in the area of training is extremely important, " Westcott said. "Our role in our core competency of training helps the Army to focus more of its active forces on their primary warfighting tasks."

Photo by Lou Ann M. Mittelstaedt

Instructor Scott Wiedenfeld teaches Army Reserve system administrators and network managers how to shield computers from cyber intruders.

"As the Army transforms itself and returns more active soldiers to the divisions and the corps, that means more and more Army training is going to be done by the Army Reserve," he said. "It's a big responsibility. We are up to it."

The classroom/laboratory at Fort McCoy is called a mirror site because it "mirrors" the training offered at the parent Army Computer Science School at Fort Gordon, Ga. Like the Fort Gordon course, the course at the ARRTC will provide Security Level 2 System Administrator certification to the system administrators and network managers who graduate from its demanding training program.

Such training was mandated by the Army's Directorate of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications and Computers. With the new mirror site, the Army Reserve can now provide this training to 400 additional system administrators and managers per year than could be offered at Fort Gordon alone.

Although the training is identical to Fort Gordon's, the classroom set-up is not. Fort Gordon uses two classrooms to train the Unix/Solaris and Windows NT systems. ARRTC conducts the same training in a single classroom with a single set of computers.

"Because of resource constraints,"

See ARRTC, page 31

A different kind of mission

264th soldiers provide community support, remove eyesore

By Sgt. Astrid Ruiz

Photos by Spc. Joseph Bonet

Members of the 264th Service Company, 346th Tranportation Battalion, Puerto Rico, lend their support during a community cleanup project.

FORT BUCHANAN, Puerto Rico—The primary mission of Caribbean Thunder '99 was to deploy, establish, occupy and defend an Area of Operations in the fictitious island of Al-Fajia. However, some citizen soldiers of the 65th Regional Support Command (RSC) were assigned to a different mission, a Civic Action Project.

A group of soldiers from the 264th Service Company, 346th Transportation Bn, with headquarters at Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, were given the mission of helping some communities improve their neighborhood environment. Urban and rural developments in the towns of Juncos and Caguas were chosen by their municipal governments to be cleaned of junk, cars and other pieces of abandoned wreckage.

The first week of training the "Environment Improvement Soldiers" (EIS) of the 264th, as they were called by some residents, deployed to the town of Juncos. In six days, using two forklifts capable of lifting up to 10,000 pounds and three flatbed platforms, they were able to remove more than 150 pieces of junk and wreckage.

"The people of Juncos were very pleased with the job we did for them. They were very friendly to us and appreciative of our work" said SPC Daniel Oliveras, a mechanic and operator of one of the forklifts.

"It is good that they help us clean up the streets removing these old cars" said Orlando Segarra, a resident of Las Carolinas for 27 years.

"Those pieces of junk provide a nest for rats and insects and that is not good for the health of our children" added Manuel Melendez, another resident of Las Carolinas. "Those cars interfere with traffic and they serve no purpose. What the reservists are doing will never be forgotten by our community. We will not have a way to pay them for what they have done."

The community improvement project did not come without some challenges according to one soldier.

"We have to make sure that our equipment does not damage the property of the residents," said SGT Angel L. Huertas, Heavy Equipment Operator. "The biggest challenge we have encountered is to maneuver the forklifts and large trucks around the narrow streets and tight areas between the houses."

Don Ismael, a long time resident of the community, was very appreciative of the work being done by the soldiers.

"The entire community conveys their gratitude with a smile in their faces. Thank you very much for all you have done" he added.

Soldiers from the 264th C&C Co. receive recognition from the Mayor of Caguas for their community cleanup efforts. Pictured from left to right are SGT Jesus Tarreo, SFC Antonio Peña, SSG Edwin Montalvo, Hon William Miranda-Marin, CPT James J. Groark, LTC Edwin Mendez and SPC Eliezer Vega.

SFC Antonio L. Peña, NCOIC, said, "The citizens of these communities are very pleased with the job we are performing here. A local newspaper referred to our reservists as "heroes" for the meaningful help they are giving to the communities. The soldiers are accomplishing the mission in an outstanding way. They enjoy their work and benefit one hundred percent with the training."

According to BG Collis Phillips, Commander, 65th RSC, "this mission, one of the accomplishments of the Command's Community Outreach Program, is a vivid example of the dedication and selfless service our citizen-soldiers enthusiastically display towards their communities. Our soldiers receive real world training, while the community benefits from a very low cost investment."

The harvest of the seed they had planted bore fruit when the Hon. William Miranda-Marin, Mayor of Caguas and former Adjutant General of Puerto Rico, presented a plaque on behalf of the entire community for their outstanding performance and support.

(Sgt. Ruiz is a journalist with the 65th Regional Support Command Public Affairs Office)

21st Century marksmanship exhibit captures attention at D.C. conference

Photos by Sergeant Maj. William Wright

Maj. Robert Carlson (left) and Master Sgt. Donald Riley (center) discuss training strategy with Maj. Gen. Craig Bambrough, DCG USARC.

WASHINGTON—While Chechen forces were inflicting heavy casualties on the Russian army with accurate small arms fire on one side of the world, the attention of reserve officers at a convention in Washington, D.C. was captured by lasers and 21st century weapons training.

The exhibit at the Reserve Officer Associations Mid-Winter Conference and Military Exposition was hosted by the 84th Division (IT), USARC's Marksmanship Executive Agent (MEA). The 84th is currently involved in reengineering small arms training in the USAR. Visitors were greeted by some of the Army Reserve's finest marksmanship instructors from the Small Arms Training Team (SATT) and the 84th Division (IT). They provided a brief overview of the Army Reserve's Marksmanship training strategy followed by a step by step introduction to the methodology they helped develop for employing the Beam-hit Laser Marksmanship Training System (LMTS).

With an M16 rifle or an M9 pistol, visitors were led through the training steps that introduce and reinforce the four fundamentals of marksmanship, steady position, aiming, breath control, and trigger control. From the host of marksmanship-training systems available today, the 84th has found the LMTS has an exceptional ability to concentrate on these fundamentals. This provides a more effective training system at lower cost.

In this model, senior trainers from the 84th and SATT will validate the Division's current marksmanship instructors in the use of the LMTS. These instructors will then deploy across the Division between April and September, conducting LMTS "qualification" for soldiers of member units.

With USAR centers being forced to close their indoor ranges to live-fire, reductions in ammunition allowances, and travel time to remote ranges, this system and methodology would allow soldiers to maintain their marksmanship skills at home station in preparation for mobilization and deployment.

A typical USAR sustainment-training scenario begins with soldiers performing a grouping and zeroing exercise on the LMTS TR-900 target. The exercise is performed in the same manner as live fire, except the "ammunition" is a laser beam. The target senses shot location which is shown on a laptop screen. Failure to achieve FM 23-9 standards identifies the soldier as a candidate for remedial training.

After remedial training the soldier moves to the LMTS Alternate Course C target where the course of fire replicates the live fire course found in FM 23-9, except, once again, the "ammunition" is a laser beam. To add realism to the experience, a special upper receiver called the "Blazer" device can supply full live-fire functionality (without the projectile). It supplies nearly 100% of the recoil at 50% of the noise using a specially designed non-toxic theatrical blank. Once again, failure to meet the standards for this course of fire identifies the soldier as a candidate for remedial training.

Testing is currently being conducted in partnership with the Army Research Institute to determine is there is sufficient correlation between the LMTS course of fire and live fire. A robust correlation would suggest that the LMTS Alt C could serve as an alternative to live fire. Maj. Gen. Thomas Plewes, Chief, Army Reserve discussed this possibility with the crew at the ROA exhibit:

"We do not ever intend to replace live fire, but with this system we may be able to reduce the frequency for some types of units".

(Maj. Robert Carlson and Master Sgt. Donald L. Riley contributed to this article. They are with the 84th Division (Institutional Training)

LMTS TR-900 Target used for grouping and zeroing exercises

Not just another drill weekend

Minnesota unit gets training, exposure at largest mall in the world

By Staff Sgt. Dave Boe

BLOOMINGTON, Minn.—Where does one go to get the Army Reserve story out to the largest number of people? Why, the largest mall in the world, of course.

This is exactly what units from the 88th Regional Support Command, Ft. Snelling, Minn., did when it participated in the 2nd Annual Government on Display Exposition at the Mall of America, Bloomington, Minn., Feb. 5-6.

The two-day event, sponsored by the Federal Executive Board of Minnesota, the Mall of America, and Blue Cross & Blue Shield Federal Employees Program, boasted 55 federal and state of Minnesota government agencies.

"This is the biggest mall event in the country, if not the world," said the exposition's organizer, Raymond Morris, executive director, F.E.B Minnesota. "The exposition puts all of the entities of the federal and state governments out to the public for a 'Conversation with Americans.' People can ask questions, obtain information, see exhibits which explain agencies operations, give direct feedback and visit with all them in one place, on one day, and in a relaxed setting."

Some may dispute the idea of the Mall of America being a "relaxed setting;" on average, 100,000 people visit the mall daily, and on the first day of the exposition, the number of mall patrons reached 400,000. Such numbers add credence to the old adage, "location, location, location," but Morris said it was more than just that.

Photo by Pfc. Cory Meyman, 364th MPAD

Photo by Maj. Mike Walton, 88th RSC DCSIM

Photo by Staff Sgt. Bill Geddes, 88th RSC

(Top) Lt. Col. Ruth Holecek and 2nd Lt. Bryan Green, both of the 114th Combat Support Hospital, pose with Sen. Paul Wellstone of Minnesota at the Government on Display Exposition held at the Mall of America. (Center) A youthful expo visitor trys her hand at "being all that she can be" by negotiating the obstacle course portion of the Kids Basic Training. (Bottom) A soldier with the 114th Combat Support Hospital answers questions her unit's display.

"The quality of the displays, the quality of the presentations have a lot to do with it," he said. "And the success of the event was directly proportional to the involvement of the military. We've had a record turnout because of (organizations) like the 88th RSC."

The Army Reserve units shared the crowded courtyards, halls, and rotundas of the mall with their counterparts in the other services. Shoppers could see first hand how a field surgery was performed, or how the latest in digital camera technology worked, or they could listen to their favorite tunes played by an Army Reserve band. The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corp performed three shows each day to a packed house, and a 'Kids Basic Training' for the younger children capped off the event.

"We seemed to have drawn a lot of crowds," said Spc. Nicholas Marsh, an operating room specialist with the 114th Combat Suport Hospital, Ft. Snelling, Minn. "But I like this because the public

See MALL, page 30

Army Reserve's newest infantrymen

Story & photos by Jacqueline Guthrie

FORT BENNING, Ga., — More than 200 young men descended on Company E, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga., recently, with the goal of becoming soldiers. But not just any soldier, these men were determined to become infantrymen.

Reservists from 1st Brigade, 84th Division (Institutional Training) helped them succeed. The 84th Division Railsplitters have been rotating every two weeks teaching these enthusiastic young men physical training, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat, land navigation, seven Army values and much more.

All of this training leads to a final test, known as the Bayonet, which evaluates not only the recruits' abilities, but also the competence of the trainers. However, the primary focus is on "Seven Army Value" training, said Capt. Ted Qualls, Company E commander.

All soldiers, Active and Reserve, must receive training on the seven Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless-service, honor, integrity and personal courage. While most service members hear about these values through videos and classroom teachings, the soldiers in Ft. Benning training brigades also get to live them.

"The Bayonet is a culmination exercise of implementing each of the seven values and infantry skills," explained Qualls. Each training mission requires the men to use their newly acquired infantry skills, but also focuses on teaching them a value. The first is honor.

The recruits entered Benning as individuals, but they left their assembly area for a 25-mile road march as a team ready to pay honor to their fallen comrades that had come before them.

The first leg of the march took them to the rock steady wall.

Named in honor of Pvt. Louis Gideon, a young soldier who single handedly defended his wounded commander during battle, the rock steady wall required the Company E recruits to negotiate a wall obstacle under fire and move all men and equipment up and over it.

As shots rang out, the platoon leader huddled with squad leaders to develop a plan of action, while the rest of their comrades lay hidden in the grass and among the trees providing security. With stealth, the young men moved quickly to the edges of a steep, straight wall. In teams they built pyramids to climb upon, created rope swings and even used logs for leverage to move themselves, their equipment and their wounded up to the top.

Following each task the new infantrymen reviewed their actions with their drill instructors, discussed lessons learned and determined which value was most prevalently demonstrated. They also discussed how to use these values in their civilian life.

"As infantrymen you don't leave

Soldiers are required to move themselves and their equipment as a team, including the ammo cases see in the background photo. (Left) Adding to the challenge, soldiers must move that same equipment while negotiating a one-rope bridge across a river, leaving no room for error. (Above) Pvt. Carl Venable peers through some foliage as he makes his way down during a rappelling exercise.

emonstrate 'Seven Army Values'

your buddy behind," said Staff Sgt. David Santos, Company E drill sergeant. The recruits just learned how to truly show loyalty to themselves, their country and their unit, he said.

"These Army values don't just relate to the Army," said Sgt. 1st Class Kendall Moore, one of the reserve drill sergeants. "They also relate to everyday life. Apply them to everything you do."

The soldiers continued on their road march ready to face new challenges, test more skills and learn more about themselves and each other.

"It's all about transformation," explained Col. John Schorsch, Infantry Training Brigade commander. A transformation from a civilian to a soldier, he said. The Bayonet exercise allows the trainees to put into practice what they have learned. "It shows that they've internalized this stuff."

It is also a transformation from being a soldier in training, led by drill sergeants, to becoming a soldier on a team with drill sergeants, he said. Demonstrating the Army values shows they are ready to be part of the infantry, Schorsch added.

As the young men continued on their mission, the next obstacle they faced was anti-tank and land mines in their path. The only other way across was a river. Demonstrating their devotion to duty, the men built a one-rope bridge and transported all men and equipment to the other side, where they continued on.

Suddenly shots rang out and the men ran for cover. Unfortunately not all escaped the shrapnel and bullets. The infantrymen selflessly loaded their wounded in uniform made slings, boosted them onto their backs, and carried them. They also piled on the extra equipment and moved to a first aid station for care.

Orders from higher headquarters soon followed and the men moved out to deliver ammunition to comrades in need. However, the amount of ammunition exceeded the number of soldiers and decisions had to be made.

> *"These Army values don't just relate to the Army, they also relate to everyday life."*
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"We could have just dumped some of it along the side of the road," said one young man. But the Army's newest infantrymen instead demonstrated integrity and did the right thing by making two trips to deliver the ammunition.

The soldiers feasted on meals, ready-to-eat and slept on their equipment throughout their 30-hour mission. However, fatigue did not slow them down as they came upon their next obstacle, the rock of Chickamauga cliff and a flowing, icy river.

Overcoming any fears of water or height, one by one the young men rappelled down the 60-foot cliff and waded across the icy river.

After completing all tasks the soldiers tactically marched the final six miles to a area lit only by fire barrels and torches. In the glowing embers, the men dipped their canteen cups into a barrel, filling them with punch. Thirsts quenched, one by one they passed under the infantry cross-rifle arch and assembled to pay honor to Company E, the training brigade, the Army, and to infantrymen past, present and future.

After the toasts of honor echoed through the night, the command sergeant major showed his respect for the newest infantrymen's ability to demonstrate each of the Army values by lighting seven torches. The young men then stood at attention as their drill sergeants, the men who taught them how to be infantrymen, welcomed them to their fraternity by pinning on crossed-rifles.

One hundred-ninety men walked back to their barracks not as just soldiers, but as infantrymen. And the last rotation of drill sergeants returned to their quarters knowing everyone had passed the final test.

(Ms. Guthrie is the public affairs officer for the 84th Division (IT). For more information about the 84th, visit their web page at www.84thdiv.com)

(Left) Teamwork is absolutely essential and no one is left behind as role-playing wounded are transported to a first aid station for care.

Army Reserve's newest infantrymen

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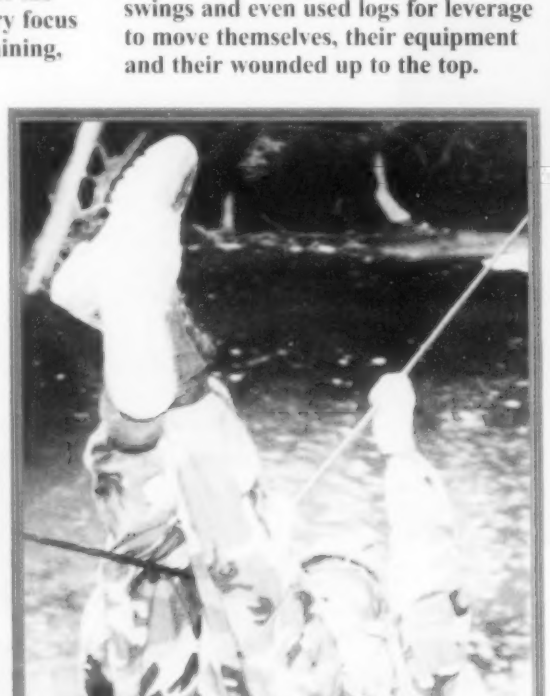

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A year in the life of a Civil Affairs Deployment

By Maj. John Mills

During 1999 and on into the year 2000, Civil Affairs (CA) soldiers have provided support to Operation Joint Forge, the implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords in Bosnia-Herzegovina. These are the soldiers at the tip of the spear in the international political military operation taking place in a healing nation. In addition, these soldiers are specialists at cultivating the bridge between members of the Former Warring Factions (FWF) and the international military members of the Peacekeeping Force.

Most of these soldiers are members of the 354th Civil Affairs Brigade (CA BDE), out of Riverdale Park, Md. as well as its subordinate units.

Photos by Maj. John R. Mills

Members of the 354th CA BDE get a photo opportunity with Mr. Kweisi Mfume (2nd from right), President and Chief Executive Officer of the NAACP. Soldiers are (from left to right) Maj. Howard Nicholson (Baltimore, Md.), Maj. Harold Felder (Cheltenham, Md.), Maj. Gloria Rudolph (Newport News, Va.), Maj. Cheryl Curry (Severn, Md.). (Bottom) Members of the 354th CA BDE observe the burial of Tankic Ismet in the town of Kalat.

When the 354th soldiers departed their home stations they received warm wishes and farewells from family members and the community. At the 354th CA BDE headquarters, Rep. Albert Wynn (D-MD) encouraged the soldiers by expressing the appreciation of the American public for the soldier's dedication to service.

In New York where the subordinate Battalions of the 354th CA BDE are located, Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) also exhorted the soldiers before their departure.

At Baltimore-Washington International Airport, a photo opportunity took place as Kweisi Mfume, President and Chief Executive Officer of the NAACP volunteered for some photos with the departing soldiers.

The Mayor of Riverdale Park, Anne Ferguson, presented a city flag to the departing Task Force soldiers. It was later flown over the Civil Affairs Task Force Headquarters at "The Residency" in Sarajevo. This same flag was presented back to the Mayor on Veteran's Day when the town's new Veteran's Memorial was dedicated. Other Mayors and Representatives from the State of Maryland also attended the multiple deployment ceremonies during the year.

The members of the Civil Affairs Task Force conducted processing at Ft. Benning, GA for subsequent deployment to Europe. This training and preparation consisted of weapons familiarization and qualification, nuclear, biological, and chemical training, medical processing, and other relevant periods of instruction including theater specific training.

When asked what he looked forward to during his deployment, Staff Sgt, Sean Zoll of the 402nd CA Battalion in Tonawanda, N.Y. said, "I'm interested in going into the small towns and interacting with the people. Civil Affairs is the primary means of communicating with these people".

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Speer, the Operations NCO for the 29th Infantry Regiment Detachment that conducts the training deploying soldiers receive, emphasized the pre-deployment training can save lives.

"The thrust of the training is if they come across a mine, booby trap, or hostile individual, they can remove

themselves and their buddies out of harm's way and then neutralize the threat," Speer noted.

Once on the ground, the Civil Affairs soldiers were immediately confronted with many situations not covered by doctrine. In addition to their military and civilian training and experiences, they must often improvise and create solutions as they assist in negotiations, discussions, and projects related to the implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords. Return of Displaced Personnel, return of property, access to economic resources, and many other issues are handled on a daily basis.

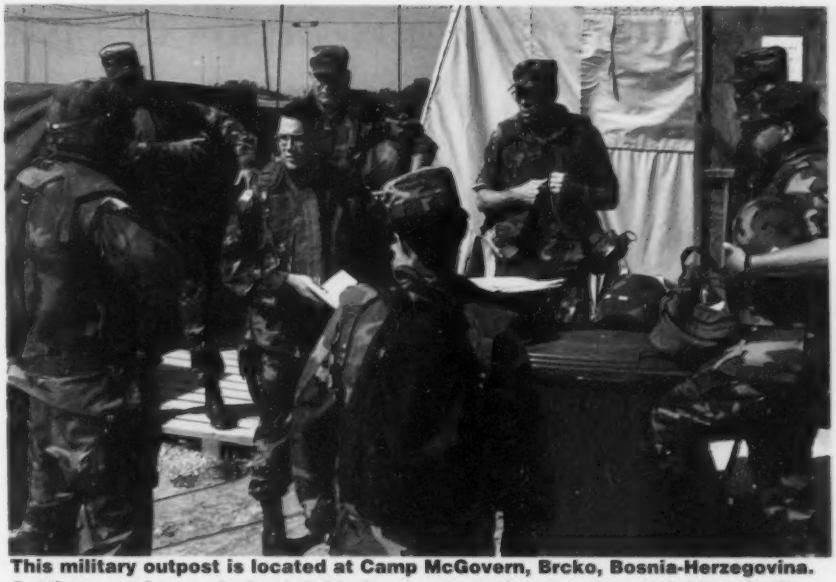
Sergeant 1st Class Gerald Willsey, of the 403rd CA BN, Mattydale, NY is the non-commissioned officer in charge of a Civil Affairs Detachment in Bosnia. His military outpost straddled the Inter-Entity Boundary Line between the Serbian and Bosniac population at the strategic city of Brcko (pronounced "Berchko"). Willsey daily applies his extensive military experience (including Vietnam and Gulf War service) into running the Civil Affairs Detachment at his basecamp,

Sgt. Maj. Sheila Venson (HHC, 354th CA BDE) serves as a Civil Affairs Operations Sergeant Major in Bosnia-Herzegovina where she organizes and runs the Civil Military Operations (CIMOC) Center.

More than 40 soldiers as well as representatives from 13 different countries work within the CIMIC. Their responsibilities entail handling Displaced Persons (DPRE's), Economic and Small Business ventures, De-mining, and Government and Infrastructure activities. A team of interpreters is also part of the staff.

Headquarters for a larger Civil Affairs operation with more than 100 soldiers assigned in different base camps in Bosnia, the CIMIC works with the elements of an international political, military, and legal framework for peace that brought an end to conflict in the former Yugoslavian Republic.

Capt. Jack Lomedico, 414th CA BN, Utica, N.Y. serves as a property book and logistics officer for the Civil Affairs Task Force. He has been the coordinator for large construction and improvement projects that have been occurring in and around some of the base camps. When these improvements affect the local population living near the base, Lomedico and his team become involved to coordinate property rights and ownership issues.



This military outpost is located at Camp McGovern, Brcko, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Soldiers receive a mission brief before commencing the days activities. Staff Sgt. Chris Minnella (3rd from left), 403rd CA BN, Mattydale, N.Y., is giving the brief. Others in the photo are (l-r) a soldier from the 1st Cavalry Division, Sgt. 1st Class Leroy Healy, 403rd CA BN, Staff Sgt. Minnella, Maj. Thomas O'Boyle, 414th CA BN, Utica, N.Y., Interpreter Jelena Bukarica, and Staff Sgt. John Hotaling, 403rd CA Bn., along with two soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division.

One of the most memorable things Lomedico said he has experienced was the downing of a Federal Republic of Yugoslavia MIG-29 by the American Air Force during recent hostilities between NATO and Serbia over Kosovo..

"I was standing on the front porch of my building talking to someone and I saw a contrail coming straight down - I knew immediately it was a jet falling from the sky".

Soldiers have time to relax and attend to their Physical Training routines. Sgt. Jennifer Bennett, 402nd CA BN, Tonawanda, NY, works out regularly with her friend from the Marine Corps, Lance Cpl. Layla Gardner. Bennett said that this deployment was a great opportunity for her to see other parts of the world and apply her civil affairs training and skills.

Maj. Larry Howard, HHC, 354th CA BDE, sums up the deployment by saying, "This operation is a great opportunity and a refreshing experience to work with professionals from numerous parts of the world, see how they operate, and make new friends in the process." **(Maj. Mills is with the 354th Civil Affairs Brigade)**

Photo by Maj. Jim Otwell

Sgt. Jennifer Bennett and Lance Cpl. Layla Gardner (USMC) get in some physical training by working out at the gym in Sarajevo.

Following in the tank treads of history

By John F. Berry

KUWAIT – The Iraqi border was just ahead, but first, Staff Sgt. Keith Paulsen of Minneapolis had to stop his Suburban so some camels could cross the road.

"It's a personal interest to learn the culture," said Paulsen, an Army Reservist who drills at Fort McCoy, Wisc. "If I didn't take anything back, then my time here would have been wasted."

Six months before helping to lead a January "terrain walk" of the deceptively flat Kuwaiti desert, the 26-year-old Paulsen was busy processing checks at a bank in St. Paul, Minn. He gave that up for an opportunity to do his job as an intelligence analyst down range with Third Army in Camp Doha, a U.S. Army base just outside of Kuwait City.

"Not every reservist gets to see, to work, in a strategic headquarters," Paulsen said. "I gave up money in the civilian world to do this. I came here to learn the job."

And learn the job he did.

During the six-hour trip, Paulsen filled his silver and red Suburban with facts and analysis that wowed five officers and one NCO, most from Fort McPherson near Atlanta.

Paulsen was well-positioned to learn his job: He was an intelligence staff NCOIC of the Coalition-Joint Task Force in Kuwait – an electronic perch that enabled to see the Middle East from inside the guarded walls of Camp Doha.

And when Paulsen wasn't on watch, he was pointing out what could happen where as part of the "terrain walks" mandated by Col. Bill Moore, 52, Third Army's senior intelligence officer.

Moore said he believes terrain walks are so vital that he requires new sergeants and officers to explore the desert when they deploy to Kuwait .

"In a nutshell, success is – and I know it's a cliché – knowledge of the enemy, knowledge of yourself and knowledge of the terrain," Moore said. "First hand knowledge, like a terrain walk, has been historically proven to (win wars)."

Moore said his officers have a better understanding of the battlefield after going on a terrain walk.

After leaving Camp Doha, Paulsen, the driver, stopped at the Mutla Pass, where the Kuwaiti army reportedly destroyed more than 30 Iraqi tanks on Aug. 2, 1990, the day when Saddam sent his armor south to seize the oil-rich emirate. They parked on a hill offering a clear view of the Al Jarah bridges — a key point for any army marching north or south. Capt. Warren Whitmire, 35, of Third Army, riding shotgun with Paulsen in the Suburban, pounded the asphalt-tough desert sand with the heel of his tan boot and said the Iraqis had to blow holes so their tanks could dig in.

Also in view were white Bedouin tents, some equipped with satellite dishes and others with a Mercedes or Jaguar parked outside. Paulsen explained that Kuwaitis liked to get back to their roots on weekends – but not without leaving all the comforts of the week. Like oil wells and camels, these apartment-sized white tents – some with Kuwaiti and American flags flying side-by-side – are a common sight in the desert.

The Suburban churned its way through the drifting sand on the Mutla Ridge before reaching the Coastal Highway, a hardtop road with red and yellow signs praising God in Arabic. They reached the crippled Bubiyan Bridge, a span long enough to eclipse the horizon before it reaches Bubiyan Island. The bridge would soon be open to traffic, but missile fragments still littered the area.

Paulsen turned the Suburban toward Iraq – or rather, to a point as close to the border as they were authorized. Despite the formal end to the Persian Gulf War almost nine years ago, low levels of shooting are still going on, even while the Atlanta-based officers were in Kuwait in late January.

Despite dropping off the front pages of the world, "Operation Southern Watch" continues. The U.S. still flies combat aircraft over Iraq as part of an effort to ensure Saddam abides by U.N. sanctions. But since December 1998, when the United States and Great Britain launched their "Operation Desert Fox" attacks, Iraq has not only refused to allow weapon inspectors to return, but persists in taking pot shots at coalition aircraft.

Third Army has maintained forces in Kuwait almost since the end of the war. Third Army sends more forces to the area each time Saddam cranks up his tanks and threatens the emirate.

Maj. Kirby Daras, 41, stood on a

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class John Berry

(Clockwise from Left) A heard of goats from the Bedouin camp on the top of the hill descend on Capt. Susan Archer and Staff Sgt. Keith Paulsen after she and six other American soldiers pause near the Mutla Pass in Kuwait in late January. The bridges of Al Jabar, the crossroads where Saddam Hussein's tanks crossed before advancing into Kuwait City on Aug. 2, 1990. The picture was taken from Mutla Pass, where the Kuwaiti Army reportedly destroyed more than 30 Iraqi tanks before running out of ammunition. Maj. John Archer and his wife Capt. Susan Archer pose with a camel on the coastal highway just north of Kuwait City. This tank, apparently an Iraqi T-55, with a shredded muzzle evacuator rests in the "Boneyard," where many of the vehicles destroyed on the nearby "Highway of Death" were lumped together after the war.

tank berm of dirt, overlooking a modern no man's land leading up to the Iraqi border. He spent three years with the Army in Berlin, a Cold War flashpoint and site of Checkpoint Charlie, where East and West stood only yards apart for decades.

But at his feet in late January was a sizable tank ditch, over him was a sun in the 60s, behind him was a wind gusting in the 30s — and in front of him was Iraq, nearly three miles away. The communication towers of Umm Qasr just inside Iraq were clearly visible despite a salty mist blowing off the nearby Persian Gulf.

"Cool. Way cool," said Daras, his hands still on his hips. "But this isn't as good as the old days back in Berlin, standing toe-to-toe with the Soviets and East Germans."

"It's a great moment…being on the 'five K' berm," said Daras, lingering on the tank barrier while the others began to dig in for lunch beside the Suburban. He pointed northeast instead of north to another potential enemy: "Just think. Just beyond this haze is Iran."

Paulsen cranked up the Suburban and drove through Abdali Farms, a chunk of remote desert that the Kuwaitis had converted from sand to soil. Soon they were on Highway 80, better known to Persian Gulf television viewers as "The Highway of Death." This is where many of the same Iraqis who occupied and looted Kuwait met their fate nine years ago when American A-10 ground-support aircraft racked their retreating columns.

The road is still pocked with small shell marks. They're too small and numerous to avoid with a car, but deep enough to make a noticeable thumping sound with a car tire.

They headed north on Highway 80 until they reached a sign ordering all American service people to halt. They were only three miles from Iraq. Safwan Mountain, near the airfield of the same name where Schwarzkopf signed a ceasefire with the Iraqis, rose above the desert surface.

"The biggest thing (people) take away from this is that Kuwait isn't as flat as thought," Whitmire said. "And when they see the Iraqi border, people realize just how close we are to Iraqi forces."

Turning their back on Iraq, the seven began their trek to Umm Al Aysh, which was one of the most significant satellite ground stations in the Middle East until Saddam came over the border. The installation's three satellite dishes and two buildings kept their basic shape despite thousands of rounds shredding the dishes and gutting the buildings. It could be a scene out of *Saving Private Ryan* except for graffiti in Arabic, including one "Saddam Lives" marking in a destroyed bathroom.

See KUWAIT, page 23

First Sergeant Course gets facelift

By Sgt. Maj. Karen Diiullo

FORT BLISS, Texas—The 35-day resident course at Fort Bliss, Texas, for new first sergeants will become a thing of the past beginning Oct.1.

The implementation of The Army Training System (TATS) for the First Sergeant Course means all students, whether in the active or reserve components, will take an identical combination of home self-study and resident small-group instruction.

In addition, the course prerequisites have been expanded to include detachment sergeants in cases where the unit designation does not authorize a first sergeant position.

The United States Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss has been directing the development of this course and academy officials say the new program will save money since soldiers will not have to travel as far or for as long as in the past. Also, time spent away from their unit and responsibilities will decrease.

With the new program's implementation, resident training locations will be at Fort Bliss; Fort McCoy, Wis.; Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.; Camp Williams, Utah; and the 218th Regional Training Institute, Leesburg, S.C. It will also be available through distance learning via Video Tele-training.

The course is divided into two phases with Phase I consisting of a pre-resident, self-study package containing 57 lesson hours with a three-hour exam. Students have 60 days to complete Phase I and must have finished before beginning Phase II which consists of 15 training days, either in residence or by VTT. Active Army sites will normally conduct the course over a three-week period, officials said, while Reserve sites will normally conduct the course in 15 consecutive days.

According to the Army Reserve's top NCO, Command Sgt. Maj. Alex Lackey, the change to the course presentation benefits the Reservist.

"When soldiers see their NCO leadership fail to attend schools it sends mixed signals."

Command Sgt. Maj. Alex Lackey

"The change to TATS allows [Reservists] to have the same Task, the same standards, but takes into account Reservists different conditions. This is very important to a Reservist. As for the Active Army sites teaching 3 weeks and Reserve components teaching 15 Days, the only difference is that the AC have weekends off and we teach straight through to reduce the time a TPU soldier is away from his or her employer."

The small group method is used for instruction for Phase II. With it, students read doctrinal references before class and participate in various group activities to discuss implementing and executing Army doctrine as a first sergeant.

Each phase has a separate Army Training Requirements and Resources System course number.

The academy conducted pilot programs of the new course from January to September of last year. Soldiers selected as first sergeants attended the pilot course either at the resident training institution at Fort McCoy, or one of the VTT locations. These included Fort Benning, Ga.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Eustis, Va.; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Gordon, Ga.; Fort Sill, Okla.; the Oklahoma Army National Guard and Virginia Army National Guard, and at U.S. Army Europe (three sites in Germany and one site in Bosnia).

Lackey stresses, all First Sergeants must attend the course.

"When Soldiers see their NCO leadership fail to attend schools, and they are watching and observing, it sends mixed signals," Lackey says. "NCOs that are promoted or appointed to First Sergeant should be enrolled in school and even though it does not fall under NCOES, if they fail the course appropriate action must be taken."

Lackey also notes that Master Sergeants appointed to the first sergeant position and who fail the course must be taken out of the position immediately.

"We should never send an NCO the First Sergeant Course a second time."

To attend the course, each soldier must be a sergeant first class or master sergeant selected to serve as a first sergeant or detachment. All first-time first sergeants must attend the course within six months of assuming their position. Successful completion of the FSC is a requirement for the award of Skill Qualification Identifier M.

(Editor's note: Sgt. Maj. Karen Diiullo is chief of the First Sergeant Course Training Development Section.)

DOR
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under the first phase of this program only, and do not receive their application packet by June 15, should contact: Office of Promotions (Reserve Components), ATTN: TAPC-MSL-N (DOR), 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, 63132-5200.

The certifying official will confirm the officer was either in a captain's position, or would have been assigned to one, if that person had been recommended for promotion by a mandatory board convening between November 1996 and March 1997. They will also certify that the officer was fully qualified to be promoted at that time.

Each officer should mail the completed application forms and all requested documentation to the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in Washington. At ABCMR, a board will consider each case individually, determining if the officer is eligible for an adjusted date of rank and, if so, what it should be.

Officers are encouraged to return their completed packets within 60 days of receiving them.

Phase two of the program - affecting those officers originally considered under the November 1998 through March 1999 boards - is expected to begin by early September.

Phase three, which will consider officers whose first-time consideration was delayed to the November 1999 through February 2000 boards, is scheduled for later in 2000.

Affected officers are asked to wait for their phase's scheduled notification mailing before contacting either the Office of Promotions (Reserve Components) or the ABCMR.

Officers who do not comply with all instructions, to include using the color-coded application forms, may only delay their appeals.

The revised date of rank will affect any pay and allowances received during the adjusted timeframe. It will also affect when officers will be eligible to be considered for promotion to major and for promotions during the remainder of their military careers.

VISA
From page 9

* Exemptions approved by heads of DoD components for military and DoD civilians during war, a national emergency declared by the president or Congress, or mobilization, deployment or contingency operations.

* Military or DoD civilians traveling to or in a foreign country where the political, financial or communications infrastructure does not support the use of a travel card.

* Military or DoD civilians whose use of the travel card due to operational, security or other mission requirements, would pose a threat to national security, endanger the life or safety of themselves or others, or would compromise a law enforcement activity.

* Direct and indirect hire foreign nationals.

* Individuals employed or appointed on a temporary or intermittent basis when the individual's supervisor or other appropriate officials determine the duration or other circumstances pertaining to the employment or appointment does not justify issuing a travel card.

DoD has authorized exempted personnel to use personal funds or a personal charge card, travel advances and government travel requests. Though individuals may be exempt from the mandatory use rule, those with cards in good standing may still use them voluntarily for official travel expenses.

While the travel card is to be used for such big-ticket items as hotel stays, transportation tickets and car rentals, government travelers are not required to use the cards for the following:

- Local transportation fares.
- Taxis.
- Parking.
- Laundry and dry cleaning.
- Expenses incurred at a vendor who doesn't accept the card.
- Meals in restaurants that don't accept the card.
- Group dining situations and other meals when use of the card would be impractical.
- Telephone calls, when a government calling card is available for use in accordance with agency policy.

In addition, DoD personnel need not use the card for expenses covered by any expense contained within the meals and incidentals portion of the per diem allowance or for local and long distance telephone calls.

The amendment also requires timely reimbursement of travel expenses. It requires agencies to pay interest to travelers whose travel vouchers are not paid within 30 calendar days. The only exception is when the payment would be less than $1. Until travel payment systems can be modified to meet this requirement, the individual traveler must determine if an interest payment is due and request payment. Interest paid will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service as additional wages.

DoD must reimburse travelers for any late fees the travel card contractor would have charged had the traveler not paid the bill on time.

The new travel cardrules will be included in Volume 9, "Travel Policy and Procedures," of the DoD Financial Management Reg DoD 7000.14-R.

(Ms. Kozaryn is with American Forces Press Service)

KUWAIT
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Next came "The Boneyard," a remote area of the desert where thousands of twisted, scorched and filleted pieces of Iraqi military hardware are lumped together in rows. Some appear to be in good shape, but the seven could get no closer than 20 yards because of possibility that unexploded ammunition and depleted anti-tank uranium rounds could be inside.

"In time, like any society, war becomes a distant memory. But this will be as powerful a reminder as you will ever find," said Daras, standing on a berm marking the boundary between soldiers and tanks. "It's not statues or monuments. This is the real thing."

The crew headed back to Camp Doha, their energy levels setting like the evening sun. They had covered more than 150 miles of open desert and several chapters of history in just six hours – largely because of Paulsen's unending, unrelenting and unrehearsed data.

"I enjoy getting out and driving," said Paulsen, who drive the entire time. "This is how I learn the country."

(Sgt. 1st Class John F. Berry is a free-lance writer and Army Reservist with A Co., 345th MI Bn near Atlanta. He was temporarily on active duty with Third Army intelligence at Fort McPherson when he wrote this story.)

Fort McPherson's 3rd Army has responded with troops and equipment each time Saddam Hussein has threatened Kuwait since the formal end of the Persian Gulf War in 1991. Such deployments – which put unexpected and considerable strain on soldiers and their families – have almost been an annual event. Eventually, these responses grew large enough to earn an operational nickname:

1994: Vigilant Warrior
1995: Vigilant Sentinel
1996: Desert Strike
1997-1998: Desert Thunder I and Desert Thunder II
1998: Desert Fox

SOURCE: Lt. Col. Scott Miller, Third Army intelligence officer

DEPLOYMENTS
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way to say, 'You are a part of the Army!'"

Patrick T. Henry, assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs, agreed.

"It's an issue of equity," Henry said.

Henry noted that the policy change impacts more than the Reservist. "I think [the impact] is going to be in two places, with families and with employers."

Under the new policy, time spent under any the following conditions will not be included in the 179 day employment total: at home station, at a mobilization station, at a pre-employment training location or station either within CONUS or OCONUS, in transit, at a demobilization station, or in leave status.

The new employment policy will be implemented, on a case by case basis, as quickly as current on-going operational commitment permits. However, full implementation will be completed no later than 1 October 2000.

CAR
From page 4

work to transform the Army and the Army Reserve in the 21st Century, we gain added strength to meet that challenge by their inspiration.

We owe so much to the men and women who served before us that we can never repay. All of us, however, can do one thing for them, something simple but meaningful. That thing is to thank them for what they have done and for giving us the enduring values that we use today as we continue to serve our country.

Pacific Northwest employer wins Reserve support awards

By Ed Quimby

WASHINGTON—In a ceremony at the Pentagon, senior Department of Defense leaders recognized Kaiser Permanente Northwest, a health maintenance organization based in Portland, Ore, as the West Region winner of the Employer Support Freedom Award for 1999. The award honors companies that provide outstanding support to employees who are members of the National Guard and Army Reserve. Kaiser was one of five American regional winners.

Leslie Carveth, a hospital administrative supervisor and an Army Reserve lieutenant colonel who served in Operation Desert Storm, accepted the award for Kaiser. She is chief nurse of the 70th RSC's 396th Combat Support Hospital, Vancouver, Wash.

Kaiser was cited for its outstanding support to employee Reservists starting with the Persian Gulf War. More than 60 of Kaiser's physicians and nurses served on active duty during the campaign. Many served in subsequent military operations and exercises in Bosnia, Kosovo, Latin America and elsewhere.

"Six months after Kaiser hired me," said Carveth, "I was mobilized for Operations Desert Shield and Storm, in December 1990. The cards, letters and care packages from Kaiser during my mobilization and the continuing support after my return were overwhelming."

Photo courtesy of NCESGR

Charles Cragin, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, presents the Freedom Award to Leslie Carveth, hospital administrative supervisor for Kaiser Permanente Northwest. Carveth is a lieutenant colonel serving with the 70th Regional Support Command's 396th Combat Support Hospital in Vancouver, Wash.

Kaiser was also praised for its generosity in donating surplus medications and equipment to hurricane relief efforts in Honduras and other Central American countries.

The four other regional winners were: North Central Region, General Fire and Safety Equipment Company Inc., based in Iowa; South Central Region, the state government of Louisiana; Northeast Region, Hitchiner Manufacturing Company Inc., based in New Hampshire; and Southeast Region, British Nuclear Fuels Limited Inc., a Virginia-based nuclear waste processing and cleanup company. British Nuclear Fuels Limited Inc. was selected from the five regional semi-finalists for the National Employer Support Freedom Award.

These annual awards are sponsored by the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and the Reserve (NCESGR), a DoD organization that is headquarters to 54 all-volunteer committees nationwide. The five regional award winners were selected from 22 nominations by these local committees. Those 22 were selected from more than 9,400 employers that were nominated for

See ESGR, page 27

Legal Assistance award winners announced

WASHINGTON—Five Army Reserve legal offices were honored alongside 39 of their active-duty counterparts recently as winners of the 1999 Army Chief of Staff Award for Excellence in Legal Assistance.

Gen. John Wickham first authorized the annual awards in 1986 to recognize those active-duty legal assistance offices that have demonstrated a consistent excellence in providing these services, officials said. In 1996, a separate category was established for reserve-component legal assistance offices.

Across the Army, 83 active-duty offices provided legal assistance during 1999, 58 of these applied for the award. In addition, seven USAR-component legal offices applied for the award.

Each office was evaluated on the quality of legal assistance provided to eligible clients, innovations to provide better client services, adequacy of legal assistance facilities, quality of preventive law efforts and publications; and legal experience of attorneys.

Winners of the Reserve Component offices category are the 78th Legal Support Organization, 99th Regional Support Command, 377th Theater Support Command, 412th Engineer Command, and 807th Medical Brigade.

These client legal services, which officials estimate as worth over $60 million, contribute to military readiness and quality of life.

(Editor's note: This article courtesy of the Legal Assistance Policy Division, Office of the Judge Advocate General, Headquarters, Department of the Army.)

Military training kicks in

Soldiers use advanced life-saving skills following fatal car crash

FORT BRAGG, N.C.—On a Thursday night in late March, Col. Michael G. Rose and Master Sgt. Mark R. James drove into a nightmare. Their advanced life-saving skills proved valuable in a chaotic situation.

The soldiers, assigned to the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne), were among the first on the scene of a fatal three-car accident. They immediately stopped to help. When they realized what had happened, their military training kicked in. Rose is the operations officer, and James is an active duty Reservist assigned as the operations sergeant major.

"It was automatic. You had to stop; someone needed help," explained Rose, who is qualified as an emergency medical technician.

It was around 9:50 p.m., Rose said, that he and James, an Army combat lifesaver, were driving north on I-95 when traffic suddenly started stopping in front of them. James continued to inch forward with traffic until he saw two of the crashed vehicles. James stopped the car, Rose grabbed his first aid bag, and they ran to the scene.

According to later newspaper reports, a U-haul truck and a car had pulled over to the shoulder of the road. When they pulled back into traffic, a tractor-trailer hit them.

Rose described the scene when they arrived. "We started assessing the situation from the south side, working our way north. The first patient, a male was on the ground in the prone position, but he was conscious and alert, oriented to what was going on," Rose recalled. Since he had no life threatening injuries, they covered him with a blanket provided by a bystander and moved on.

The next victim they encountered was being aided by an Air Force major who had started life-saving measures on him. James immediately started putting pressure on a severe arterial wound. Rose began working airway management, but when the EMS arrived and took that over, he switched to chest compressions.

"We continued compressions and resuscitation for about five minutes until an ambulance arrived," said Rose.

"It was a chaotic scene; very dark," Rose said. Although he and several bystanders had flashlights and there was some illumination from headlights, it was still very dark. "There was an extremely large amount of debris around; it looked like the moving van had exploded. The debris contributed to the difficulty in making sure we found all the victims," Rose said.

"At the time, all I thought about was applying pressure to the wound and making a visual inspection of the patient. It is hard to describe what I was feeling about that time. My main thought was to assist with trying to keep this individual alive," James said.

Despite the chaos, the darkness and total confusion, Rose and James both said they had no problem rendering what aid they could.

"Our training kicked in. We were very focused," Rose explained.

"You can't put a value on the training we receive. You never know when the time will arise and you'll need to apply it," James agreed.

Winners announced for Connelly Award

FORT LEE, Va. (Army News Service)— Soldiers and civilians from across the globe converged on Chicago in early April, not for battle but rather for recognition as the Army's best food service professionals.

The 865th Combat Support Hospital (77th RSC), Niagara Falls, N.Y. and the 349th General Hospital (63rd RSC), Los Angeles are the proud winner and runner-up in the Army Reserve category of the 2000 Phillip A. Connelly awards.

The awards program took place at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel in Chicago April 6-9. The winners were notified late last year.

The program is named in honor of the late Philip A. Connelly, past president of the International Food Service Executives Association, highly regarded as the driving force behind obtaining IFSEA sponsorship for the Department of the Army's recognition of excellence in Army food service.

The program is co-sponsored by IFSEA and the Department of the Army. IFSEA representatives participate in the evaluation of finalists in five different dining facility categories - Small Garrison, Large Garrison, Active Army Field Kitchen, U.S. Army Reserve, and U.S. Army National Guard.

U.S. Army Center of Excellence-Subsistence and IFSEA evaluators traveled the globe over the last year to obtain first-hand knowledge of how Army cooks perform their jobs in both garrison (installation) dining facilities and during field operations.

Army cooks are evaluated in a number of areas, including food preparation, taste, nutrition, service, and sanitation.

Leading up to the prestigious Connelly Awards ceremony on April 7, food service soldiers and civilians had the opportunity to participate in a number of IFSEA-sponsored seminars and special events.

(Editor's note: This article courtesy of a Fort Lee Public Affairs Office news release.)

People

Mother's love spurs beauty queen to join the Army

Photos by Nel S. de Leon

(Left) 1st Lt. Cindy May proudly displays her Mrs. Oklahoma 1999 title sash. (Right) Joining May for a group photo are (l-r) 1st Lt. May, Capt. Margaret Stripling, 2nd Lt. Ramona Clawson, 2nd Lt. Stacy Burg and 2nd Lt. Kristy Baker. Stripling is a physician, the others are critical care nurses. They are all members of the 2291st U.S. Army Hospital in Oklahoma City.

By Nel S. de Leon

Some weekends Cindy May, the 1999 Mrs. Oklahoma International, will not be wearing her gown, tiara and sash.

Instead, she will don her jungle green BDU (Battle Dress Uniform) and polished boots. A matching cap with one shiny silver bar will take the place of her crown. The title sash won't be there — a nametag, military patches and insignia will identify her rank and affiliation.

May is also a first lieutenant in the Army Reserve. Commissioned into the Army Nurse Corps, she recently completed the Officer Basic Course (OBC), a two-week orientation to the fundamentals of Army life.

Maternal love had a lot to do with May's decision to join the Army. Her older son, Toby, enlisted in the Army National Guard at the height of the conflict in Kosovo. And

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A Special Kind of Hero

U.S. Army Reserve Photo

Sgt. Major William H. Bonebreak, Jr. stands tall as his wife Yvonne, and daughter Rebekah put on his new stripes while his son Kevin watches the proceedings. Bonebreak is a survivor of the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Building. Immediately following the explosion, he helped dig out others from the debris and performed a search and rescue of the U.S. Army Recruiting battalion area. He remained inside the bombed offices, helping until the police forced him to leave. The 24-year Army veteran received a Soldiers' Medal for his deeds. Sgt. Maj. Bonebreak is the senior guidance counselor for the Oklahoma City Military Entry Processing Station.

Beauty
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like any mother, May feared for her son's safety and well-being.

"I joined the Army because I want to be there for Toby. If I cannot be by his side when he needs me, I will find comfort knowing the Army has nurses like me to take care of him. I will treat any soldier as if I am treating my own son. I want other mothers to know that there is another mother who cares about their sons and daughters."

Service to God and country are May's other reasons for becoming a part-time soldier.

"Defending our nation is an important job. We need heroes. America may not be perfect, but to me, it is still the best place to live. God gave me the skills and knowledge to make a difference. By serving in the Army, I can contribute to making our country a little bit better," she said.

Just as she has done in civilian pageants and competitions, May prepared herself, physically and mentally, for OBC. "I've heard a lot of stories about basic training," she said. "I did a lot of running, sit-ups and push-ups. And it helped. But those 4:30 a.m. wake-up calls were kind of tough considering we went to bed pretty late because we had to study our lessons, iron our uniforms, and shine our boots."

"What I like most about OBC and the Army is team work," May added. "It usually takes a group of people to get something accomplished and everybody should make the same effort so that everybody will be successful and everybody will share in that success. So impressed with the Army, May is now considering Active Duty service. She also plans to continue her nursing education using Army tuition assistance programs.

"I have no doubt in my mind 1st Lt. May will be a successful soldier," said Capt. Lora J. Darnell, of the US Army Health Care Recruiting Team Office in Oklahoma City, Okla. "She loves the Army. She cares about soldiers. She is physically fit, has great attitude, and is a consummate professional. As a woman, mother and nurse, one could not find a better role model."

For the time being, May can look forward to new and exciting experiences as a part-time military nurse. One weekend a month, May will be training in combat readiness and mobilization with the 2291st US Army Hospital, Section 3, located in Oklahoma City, Okla. She will also train in military patient care at the Reynolds Army Community Hospital, Ft. Sill, Okla., and the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Oklahoma City. The 2291st Hospital is headquartered in El Paso, Texas. It provides staff support to the William Beaumont Army Medical Center in Ft. Bliss, Texas.

May is a full-time registered nurse with the Oklahoma State Department of Human Services, charged with overseeing professional support services for the disabled. She is a graduate of Murray State College, Tishomingo, Okla. She and her husband Tom, have been married for 23 years. They have three children: Toby, 21 years old; Cara, 19; and Keegan, 13.

(Mr. de Leon is with the 5th Recruiting Brigade)

ESGR
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recognition in 1999 by their employee Reservists.

Rudy de Leon, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, Charles L. Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for Reserve affairs, and Thomas C. Irwin, chair of the NCESGR, presented the awards to the representatives of the five companies.

The 'Pro Patria' award

West Region winner Kaiser also won NCESGR's highly selective Pro Patria award for adopting personnel policies in support of national defense. Only one Pro Patria — meaning "for the nation" in Latin — is awarded annually in each state.

"Employer support is vital for Reservists," de Leon said. "We cannot continue to rely on them if we can't count on their employers. These recipients have set an example for others to follow and have taken great pains to ease the burden for their employees who serve in uniform. They demonstrate that employers are really part of the Total Force."

Carveth's experience at Kaiser underscores de Leon's point. "I feel very fortunate to be a Kaiser employee," she said. "I have been treated exceptionally well, and believe it is my civilian job that allows me to continue in the military."

She added that, "As important as it is to have my manager's support of my Army Reserve position, I'm also grateful for the support of my colleagues. I am one of six regular hospital administrative supervisors. When I'm at drill weekends or annual training, Kaiser takes a back seat and coworkers need to cover for me. No one in my group questions this or complains about it. They are remarkable."

(Quimby is with the 70th RSC Public Affairs Office)

Geography Bear

Photo by Capt. Barry Reichenbaugh

Chaplain (Maj.) Richard Uhler embarked on an unusual duty detail when he hosted a special guest at Camp Comanche, Bosnia. His guest—a 10-inch "Geography Bear." The bear is part of a project started in September by a Tualatin Elementary class in Tualatin, Ore. The bear travels around the world sporting a blue backpack that holds a notebook with instructions for recording his travels. To date, the Geography Bear has visited Oregon, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Virginia, Washington, D.C., England, Scotland, Japan, and Thailand.

People

Mother's love spurs beauty queen to join the Army

Photos by Nel S. de Leon

(Left) 1st Lt. Cindy May proudly displays her Mrs. Oklahoma 1999 title sash. (Right) Joining May for a group photo are (l-r) 1st Lt. May, Capt. Margaret Stripling, 2nd Lt. Ramona Clawson, 2nd Lt. Stacy Burg and 2nd Lt. Kristy Baker. Stripling is a physician, the others are critical care nurses. They are all members of the 2291st U.S. Army Hospital in Oklahoma City.

By Nel S. de Leon

Some weekends Cindy May, the 1999 Mrs. Oklahoma International, will not be wearing her gown, tiara and sash.

Instead, she will don her jungle green BDU (Battle Dress Uniform) and polished boots. A matching cap with one shiny silver bar will take the place of her crown. The title sash won't be there — a nametag, military patches and insignia will identify her rank and affiliation.

May is also a first lieutenant in the Army Reserve. Commissioned into the Army Nurse Corps, she recently completed the Officer Basic Course (OBC), a two-week orientation to the fundamentals of Army life.

Maternal love had a lot to do with May's decision to join the Army. Her older son, Toby, enlisted in the Army National Guard at the height of the conflict in Kosovo. And

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A Special Kind of Hero

U.S. Army Reserve Photo

Sgt. Major William H. Bonebreak, Jr. stands tall as his wife Yvonne, and daughter Rebekah put on his new stripes while his son Kevin watches the proceedings. Bonebreak is a survivor of the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Building. Immediately following the explosion, he helped dig out others from the debris and performed a search and rescue of the U.S. Army Recruiting battalion area. He remained inside the bombed offices, helping until the police forced him to leave. The 24-year Army veteran received a Soldiers' Medal for his deeds. Sgt. Maj. Bonebreak is the senior guidance counselor for the Oklahoma City Military Entry Processing Station.

Beauty
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like any mother, May feared for her son's safety and well-being.

"I joined the Army because I want to be there for Toby. If I cannot be by his side when he needs me, I will find comfort knowing the Army has nurses like me to take care of him. I will treat any soldier as if I am treating my own son. I want other mothers to know that there is another mother who cares about their sons and daughters."

Service to God and country are May's other reasons for becoming a part-time soldier.

"Defending our nation is an important job. We need heroes. America may not be perfect, but to me, it is still the best place to live. God gave me the skills and knowledge to make a difference. By serving in the Army, I can contribute to making our country a little bit better," she said.

Just as she has done in civilian pageants and competitions, May prepared herself, physically and mentally, for OBC. "I've heard a lot of stories about basic training," she said. "I did a lot of running, sit-ups and push-ups. And it helped. But those 4:30 a.m. wake-up calls were kind of tough considering we went to bed pretty late because we had to study our lessons, iron our uniforms, and shine our boots."

"What I like most about OBC and the Army is team work," May added. "It usually takes a group of people to get something accomplished and everybody should make the same effort so that everybody will be successful and everybody will share in that success. So impressed with the Army, May is now considering Active Duty service. She also plans to continue her nursing education using Army tuition assistance programs.

"I have no doubt in my mind 1st Lt. May will be a successful soldier," said Capt. Lora J. Darnell, of the US Army Health Care Recruiting Team Office in Oklahoma City, Okla. "She loves the Army. She cares about soldiers. She is physically fit, has great attitude, and is a consummate professional. As a woman, mother and nurse, one could not find a better role model."

For the time being, May can look forward to new and exciting experiences as a part-time military nurse. One weekend a month, May will be training in combat readiness and mobilization with the 2291st US Army Hospital, Section 3, located in Oklahoma City, Okla. She will also train in military patient care at the Reynolds Army Community Hospital, Ft. Sill, Okla., and the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Oklahoma City. The 2291st Hospital is headquartered in El Paso, Texas. It provides staff support to the William Beaumont Army Medical Center in Ft. Bliss, Texas.

May is a full-time registered nurse with the Oklahoma State Department of Human Services, charged with overseeing professional support services for the disabled. She is a graduate of Murray State College, Tishomingo, Okla. She and her husband Tom, have been married for 23 years. They have three children: Toby, 21 years old; Cara, 19; and Keegan, 13.

(Mr. de Leon is with the 5th Recruiting Brigade)

ESGR
From page 24

recognition in 1999 by their employee Reservists.

Rudy de Leon, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, Charles L. Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for Reserve affairs, and Thomas C. Irwin, chair of the NCESGR, presented the awards to the representatives of the five companies.

The 'Pro Patria' award

West Region winner Kaiser also won NCESGR's highly selective Pro Patria award for adopting personnel policies in support of national defense. Only one Pro Patria — meaning "for the nation" in Latin — is awarded annually in each state.

"Employer support is vital for Reservists," de Leon said. "We cannot continue to rely on them if we can't count on their employers. These recipients have set an example for others to follow and have taken great pains to ease the burden for their employees who serve in uniform. They demonstrate that employers are really part of the Total Force."

Carveth's experience at Kaiser underscores de Leon's point. "I feel very fortunate to be a Kaiser employee," she said. "I have been treated exceptionally well, and believe it is my civilian job that allows me to continue in the military."

She added that, "As important as it is to have my manager's support of my Army Reserve position, I'm also grateful for the support of my colleagues. I am one of six regular hospital administrative supervisors. When I'm at drill weekends or annual training, Kaiser takes a back seat and coworkers need to cover for me. No one in my group questions this or complains about it. They are remarkable."

(Quimby is with the 70th RSC Public Affairs Office)

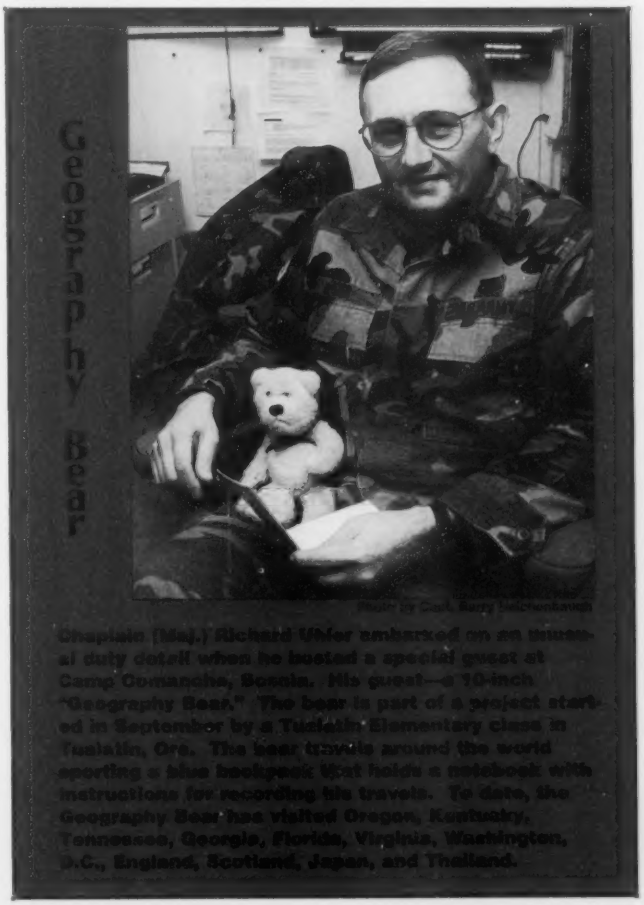


Photo by Capt. Barry Hutchenson

Chaplain (Maj.) Richard Uhler embarked on an unusual duty detail when he hosted a special guest at Camp Comanche, Bosnia. His guest—a 10-inch "Geography Bear." The bear is part of a project started in September by a Tualatin Elementary class in Tualatin, Ore. The bear travels around the world sporting a blue backpack that holds a notebook with instructions for recording his travels. To date, the Geography Bear has visited Oregon, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Virginia, Washington, D.C., England, Scotland, Japan, and Thailand.

One of a kind Reserve recruiter makes home in Germany

Maj. Burt Masters, PAO, 7th ARCOM

(Left) Sgt. 1st Class Clifford A. Stein, Army Reserve Europe Recruiter and Amber M. Bortz, complete the necessary paperwork to enlist her into the Army Reserve. Bortz, a student at the University of Maryland, Schwaebisch Gmund, enlisted as an intelligence analyst. She will attend basic and advanced individual training in the U.S. and then join one of the 7th Army Reserve Command's units in Germany. (Below) Stein, works the phone and laptop computer simultaneously in classic "recruiter fashion" as he works on enlisting a potential recruit.

By Maj. Burt Masters

SCHWETZINGEN, Germany—Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Clifford Stein has returned "home" to his adopted country of Germany. Stein is a one of a kind—serving as the only Army Reserve recruiter based outside of U.S. territory. He operates out of the 7th Army Reserve Command's headquarters at Tompkins Barracks in Schwetzingen.

"I've got two places in the world that I call 'home' — New York City and Germany," said Stein. His roots in Germany are based on family ties. Stein's wife, Sibylle (Breier), is German. Their son, Damion, was born in Sibylle's hometown of Blankenbach, near Aschaffenburg, where they reside. Even their golden retriever, Idefix, is named after a dog on a popular German cartoon show "Obelisk and Asterisk," which features a pair of hapless Vikings and their dog who accompanies them on their adventures. In typical small German village fashion, they live a stone's throw from her parent's and relatives' homes.

A self proclaimed Harley Davidson motorcycle fanatic, Stein fittingly met his wife through his hobby. "I met Sibylle at a biker club in Hanau that was popular with the GI's who rode Harleys. I remember exactly when I met her – it was the day before New Year's eve in 1985. I was there with a friend and we were planning our New Year's festivities. My best friend introduced me to her and the next day was our first date. This December will make 15 years since I first met her. I was stationed with the 23rd Combat Engineers there at the time. It's an amazing story," he said. The Steins' love of Harleys hasn't diminished over time. They ride their "his" and "hers" Harleys on weekends and maintain a network of friends with other riders in the HOG (Harley Owners Group) community in Germany.

The Steins were married in Sibylle's birth house in Blankenbach. Unlike many engaged German and American couples, they weren't put off by the bureaucratic and often cumbersome system of getting married in Germany.

"A lot of Americans go to Denmark because they find the paperwork so daunting – but it's not really as difficult as they think it is," Stein said. The couple was married in a small ceremony, in typical "blended" German-American family fashion. Her parents and two brothers were present, along with his parents and one of his sisters, who flew over from the States for the occasion.

See RECRUITER, page 31

ROTC instructor brings unique past into classroom

Story by Joe Skoglund

Growing up in the war-torn country of South Vietnam during the 1960's and 70's, Khanh Pham never dreamed that someday he would escape to the United States, graduate from college, and be commissioned an officer in the US Army. But that's precisely what he did and today Capt. Pham is one of 16 84th Division (Institutional Training) soldiers serving as ROTC cadre at Marquette University.

Pham brings a unique background to the classroom. He made his escape from Communist-ruled Vietnam in 1979 aboard a small boat. During this voyage, perilous enough in itself, his group was robbed, beaten, and left to die on the high seas. Pham survived and finally arrived in the U. S. in 1980. Following his graduation from college, he joined the Army because he wanted to give something back to the country that had given him so much.

Pham has vivid memories of growing up in South Vietnam during the Vietnam War. He particularly remembers hiding under a bed with his four siblings during the Tet Offensive of 1968. The children were not allowed to leave the room or turn on the lights for several days.

U.S. Army Reserve photo

He also remembers well the collapse of the South Vietnam government and the fall of Saigon in April 1975. Pham was 15 at the time.

"Bullets and bombs flew everywhere," said Pham. "The whole city was chaotic, people were on jeeps with guns just shooting – there were no laws."

With the fall of South Vietnam, life became very restrictive under the control of the Vietnamese Communists.

"The communist government controlled everything in Vietnam," said Pham. "Whatever the communist party put out was the official version of what the people would hear, there was no CNN running around."

Three years later, Vietnam declared war against its neighbors, China and Cambodia. On his eighteenth birthday, Pham was drafted into the Vietnamese Communist Army. During his three months of training, Pham was part of a three-man team that shared one AK-47 assault rifle and was issued three rounds of ammunition each time they went to the range.

When his unit went to battle in Cambodia, Pham saw his opportunity to escape.

"I would not serve a system that denied my education and sent my father and other relatives to 're-education camps' after the fall of Saigon in 1975," said Pham. "There was only one gate to our camp and I crept out the back around 4:00 a.m. and hitchhiked back home to Saigon."

Pham hid for months in the homes of different relatives during the day. The communist army officials and local police were constantly visiting his parents to see if they had seen him. One night, Pham was at his parent's home when the police arrived. A quick dash to the roof, where he hid, was the only thing that allowed him to avoid capture.

After nearly a year of hiding from the communist authorities, Pham and ten friends decided to leave Vietnam. To accomplish this goal, the group built a small boat that they hoped would survive an ocean voyage to the Philippines. By 1979 the government had confiscated all ocean-worthy boats.

Pham's father had wanted Pham to take his younger brother on the trip, but Pham did not think their chances of survival were very great and did not want his father to lose two sons.

See ROTC, page 30

Photo by Staff Sgt. Ken Hawkins

Meet the newest "Honorary Golden Knight." Reserve Command Sgt. Maj. William Grimes, 4th Brigade (CSS), 95th Division (IT) in Dallas, Texas earned the title "Honorary Golden Knight" last year because of his extraordinary efforts towards supporting the Team and its activities. Considered the highest honor the team can present to a non-team member, military personnel or civilians are given the title following selection by secret ballot during the annual Golden Knight Week, usually held around mid-November of each year. This is the same title bestowed on President George Bush in 1997. Grimes is shown here during his tandem jump with the "The Golden Knights" in Yuma, Arizona in February. Staff Sergeant Johnny Mulford was the tandem jumper and Staff Sergeant Bryan Patrick is pictured on the right. Grimes is the Chief, Advertising & Public Affairs U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Houston.

ROTC
From page 29

The small boat had a one-horsepower engine with a few hundred gallons of gasoline. With only limited drinking water, a lensatic compass, an AK-47, and several grenades, the friends set out to sea on October 4th, 1979.

"This boat was 40 feet long and only six or seven feet wide," said Pham. "Very small for an ocean crossing."

In order to avoid patrol boats, the escapees anchored during the day and traveled by night. This made the group's vessel appear more as a fishing craft than an escape boat.

"If the authorities thought we were trying to escape, they probably also thought we would die anyway so they didn't bother us," joked Pham.

Twice during the fifteen-day ordeal at sea, the escapees were captured, beaten, and robbed — the first time by Thai fisherman-turned-pirates and later by Malaysian Coast Guard. The Malaysians strip-searched the escapees, even dumping out their precious water supply in order to search the containers for valuables. During this raid, Pham had his father's wedding ring taken from him. He had been able to successfully conceal the ring from the Thai pirates.

After robbing and beating Pham's group, the Malaysians towed the small craft into international waters and cast it adrift.

"I thought I was going to die," said Pham. "It was so desperate, at sea there is no division between sky and ocean, especially at night."

"We used our ponchos to catch rain water to drink, then after a few days we saw the flame from a Canadian oil platform."

The crew of an Indonesian oil rig soon rescued Pham and his friends. After a voyage of some 16,000-ocean miles, the group was finally safe and free. The Indonesians got the ragged crew into a refugee camp and, in March 1980, Pham arrived in the United States.

The rest of Pham's story is the stuff of the classic American dream — graduation from college, a commission in the Army, and success in the civilian sector.

During Desert Storm, Pham served with the 1st Infantry Division. Since 1992, he has served as a Medical Service Corps officer in the Army Reserve. Before his assignment as an assistant professor of military science at Marquette, Pham served as the commander for the 482nd Medical Detachment.

In his civilian life, Pham is an investment representative for the Edward D. Jones Investment Firm in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In addition to his other accomplishments, he is also an award-winning artist.

As an assistant professor of military science, Pham is part of the Alternative Staffing Program. This program is testing the feasibility of replacing full-time cadre on college campuses with Reservists.

"Everything people here in America may take for granted – I don't," said Pham. "Everything I choose to do now is my destiny. If I had not escaped from Vietnam, this would not be possible. Despite all the bad things, the United States is still the best place on earth and is still the land of opportunities."

(Mr. Skoglund writes for the Marquette University Golden Eagle Battalion)

MALL
From page 15

gets to see what we do."

Dressed in surgical "scrubs" and standing in a mock operating room under camouflage netting, Marsh assisted in an operation while shoppers holding Nordstrom and Pottery Barn bags looked on.

"Even while we're on display, we still are getting in some needed training," said Marsh.

Doug Eggers had come up to the mall for the weekend with his family, who had never seen it before. A 2nd Lt. with 1555 Water Purification Detachment out of Dubuque, Iowa, Eggers said bringing the Army Reserve story to the large mall in the world made sense.

"The Reserves needs to get out and interact with the public," said Eggers. "An event like this can draw a positive response from people."

But, said Eggers, the exposition is also a great way for the Reserves to advertise. "We always need new people," he said. "And an event like this can show prospective recruits what the Army Reserve is all about."

Photo by Pfc. Cory Meyman, 364th MPAD

Members of the 451st Army Reserve Band perform at the Government on Display Exposition at the Mall of America.

Mike Flying Horse, a high school student from Minneapolis, agreed. Flying Horse, 18, came to the mall with friends to shop, but stopped at one of the Army Reserve booths to talk with soldiers and fill out a prospect card.

"I've been thinking about going into the Army, and this helped," said Flying Horse, "The displays show me what the Army has to offer. It's made me more serious about it."

Whether it's recruitment or interactive displays, the bottom line, said Morris, is public contact with their government. "The federal government is the best kept secret in Minnesota, he said. "Many citizens in the state don't realize the size of the government or the scope of the agencies here. It's a great opportunity for organizations like the 88th RSC to talk with the public and show how they work on their behalf."

(Staff Sgt. Boe is with the 364th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Ft. Snelling, Minn.)

RECRUITER
From page 28

Along with his marriage and subsequent immersion in the German culture, Stein picked up the German language, though speaking it with a decidedly Brooklyn (New York) accent. "I didn't speak German at all when I met my wife," he admitted. He was motivated to learn the language because his in-laws didn't speak any English. "I was convinced they were always speaking bad about me, so I decided to learn the language," said Stein, tongue-in-cheek. "I discovered once I picked up some German that they really weren't out to get me after all," he laughed. "I try to stay away from that word (fluent) when describing my language ability, but most people say that I am."

The Steins, after some discussion, decided to raise their son in a bi-lingual environment, where he speaks English, and his wife, German, to him. Stein admits this dual language situation causes some confusion to their young tyke, but he feels it will be a tremendous advantage for Damion to have proficiency in both languages.

On the weekends, the Steins like to engage in typical German pastimes — going to fests and taking long walks with their extended family and friends. "In our little neck of the woods, called the Spessart region, we have a lot of fish fests and trout farms to choose from. We also do a lot of 'orienteering' with Idefix – and love to get lost in the woods," Stein said.

The Stein family also likes to expose Germans in the area to American customs, such as the backyard barbecue. "We like to grill in the summers on our big American barbecue out back and invite family and friends over. The German grills are just too small and are only big enough to put a couple of bratwursts on. Meanwhile, I'm cooking up a couple of steaks, hamburgers and chicken wings all at the same time, which really amazes them, particularly my father-in-law."

The story of Stein's experience in making a home here is reflective of many of the members of the European-based 7th Army Reserve Command. Many of the reservists here separated from active duty overseas, married Germans and those from other European countries, and made a second home here. Stein himself is a former member of the command, having separated from active service here and joined to a Reserve unit. He then returned to active service fulltime through the Army's Active-Guard Reserve program and intends to remain till his retirement

"What I'd like to do after the Army is open up my own business here and build custom motorcycles."

Referring to the motorcycle craze sweeping the country, Stein feels there is an unmet demand here for motorcycles built to individual specifications. Germans can't seem to get enough of motorcycles and the culture surrounding them. Movies like "Easy Rider" are cult classics here and Harley HOG groups are spreading throughout the country.

"I just love it here," said Stein. "This country and its people have been good to me."

(Maj. Masters is the 7th ARCOM Public Affairs Officer)

ARRTC
From page 12

Westcott explained, the Army Reserve's Chief Information Office's staff and the ARRTC's staff had to come up with a way to offer this course to the same standards as at Fort Gordon but using less equipment and less space. They researched various configurations without an operational model to guide them. Their solution was theoretically possible, but untried."

"It is no longer untried, it works," Westcott said. "The third class to use this facility graduates in three days. ARRTC didn't wait for a ceremony like this before they got the training going."

"The success of this mirror site paves the way for the others that will be established later," Westcott. "Those setting up those sites will come to ARRTC to learn how to set up their equipment and classroom."

Other mirror sites are planned for Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Lewis, Wash.; and the National Guard Professional Education Center at Camp Robinson, Ark.

Fort McCoy and the ARRTC were selected for the first mirror site because of their already established reputation as a center of innovation. In 1999, a distance learning initiative began at the ARRTC, linking soldiers together from all over the country for interactive training. This resulted in a tremendous benefit for Reserve Component soldiers by being able to attend Military Occupational Specialty qualification or professional development courses while remaining at home station, thus eliminating expense and time away from civilian occupations.

The ARRTC was also selected for this site because it is the principal Army Reserve training facility. Its modern classrooms, billets and messing facilities are expressly designed to provide a wide range of training at minimal cost. By training students at Fort McCoy's mirror site, the Army Reserve could save between $120,000 to $200,000 a year.

(Lt. Col. Pullen is assigned to the Public Affiars and Liaison Directorate, the Office of the Chief of the Army Reserve)

HISTORY
From page 7

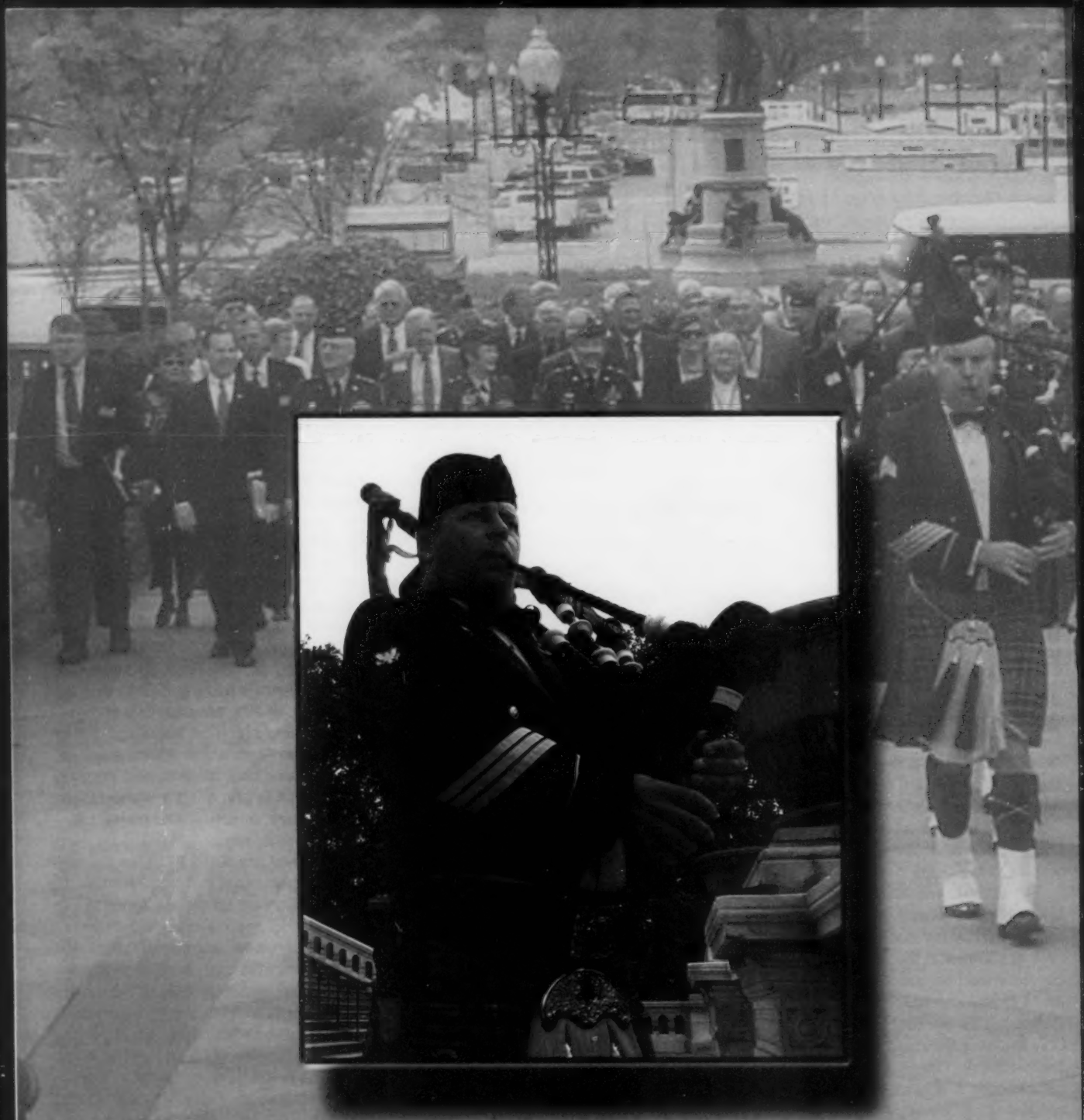
found wherever the Army operates at home and abroad. The area of operations for the Army Reserve is global.

The reason is simple…many critical types of support units and capabilities are either exclusively or primarily in the Army Reserve. The Army Reserve has all of the Army's training divisions, railway units, enemy prisoner of war brigades and chemical brigades. It has most of the Army's civil affairs, psychological operations, medical and transportation units and a large portion of its public affairs, engineer and power projection assets, too.

As vital as are Army Reserve units — 1,600 units located in 1,100 Army Reserve Centers all across America — the individual men and women of the Army Reserve are even more important. These dedicated citizen-soldiers carry their civilian-acquired skills and expertise with them to meet the needs of the Army and the nation, then return home with even greater skills and expertise to make their communities better. They volunteered to be "twice the citizen" and they are.

Today's Army Reservists, with a 92-year legacy of outstanding service to our country, are committed to ensuring the Army Reserve remains the Army's indispensable component in the new millennium and that the United States Army continues to be what it is — the best Army in the world.

(Lt. Col. Randy Pullen is assigned to the Public Affairs and Liaison Directorate, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve.)



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